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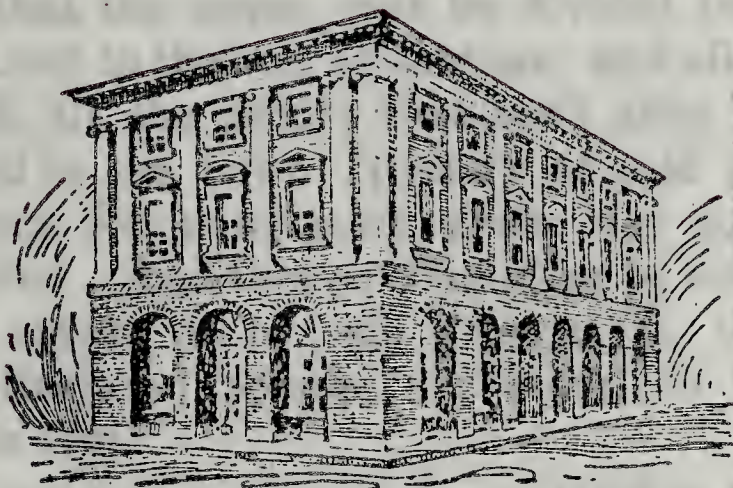
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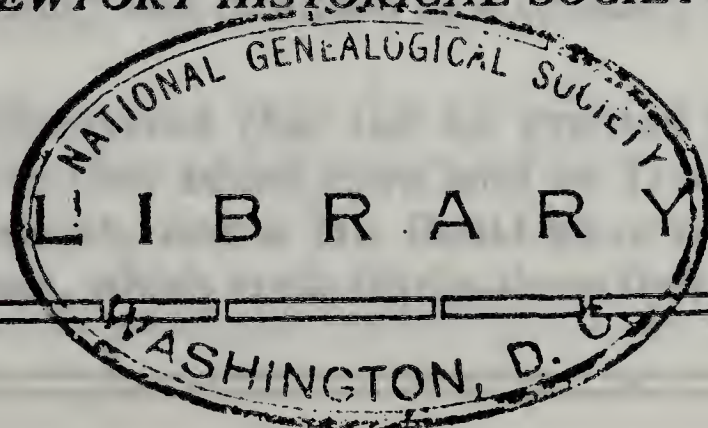
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The Story of the Old City Hall



Issued by the
NEWPORT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
R.I. in collaboration with the
NEWPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY



The Study
of the Old City Hall



Presented to the
Board of Directors of the
City of New York
by the
Committee on the
City Hall



The Story of the Old City Hall

On July 24th, 1760, the Proprietors of Long Wharf made the following grant:-

"Whereas, the Proprietors of the Long Wharf, in Newport, aforesaid, have made a grant, on the twenty-fourth day of July, A. D. 1760, to the said town of Newport, of a lot of land, for erecting a Market House, &c., it is therefore voted, that Martin Howard and Josias Lyndon, Esqrs., be a committee, and they are hereby confirmed to make and give a good deed of said lot, to the town of Newport, agreeable to said grant. 1957698

"And that the upper part be divided into stores for dry-goods, and let out to the best advantage; and all the rents thereof, together with all the profits that shall arise on said building, shall be lodged in the Town Treasury of said town of Newport, towards a stock for purchasing grain, for supplying a Public Granary forever. And that said building be erected agreeably to a plan to be agreed on by said Proprietors, to be estimated at twenty-four thousand pounds, old tenor, to be raised by the lottery now on foot.

"The lower part thereof for a Market House, and for no other use whatsoever, forever; (unless it shall be found convenient to appropriate some part of it for a watch-house.) A handsome brick building, to be thirty-three feet in front, or in width, and about sixty-six feet in length."—From the Records of the Proprietors of the Long Wharf.

A committee consisting of Henry Collins, Joseph Bell, Augustus Johnson and Joseph Lyndon, was appointed to confer with a Mr. Peter Harrison concerning the plans for this Market House. This Peter Harrison was a well known architect. He designed the Jewish Synagogue and Redwood Library, but the Old City Hall is considered the finest example of his work.

The building was intended as a Granary but was never put to such a use.

It was discovered that the lot granted by the Proprietors was too small, so they added more land on Long Wharf, totaling sixty-six feet depth, and a Mr. Gould gave a three foot portion on Thames street, which made thirty-three feet on Thames street.

In 1762, the Brick Market was built. It was erected by the Town by lotteries, granted for that purpose by the General Assembly. It was after the Ionic order; the style was copied from that of the English market houses then in existence. There were three stories, the lower was made for a Market, and the second and third were let out for the retailing of dry goods, and for offices. The rear part of the lower floor was a watch-house. In the market, a stall was erected in the South side for the use of country people and not to be let or occupied by Inhabitants.

Immediately after the Revolution the upper stories were used only as a printing office.

In 1793, one Alexander Placide rented the upper part for a play house, remodeling a little. The first show acted there was "Jane Shaw." During the occupation as a theatre a restaurant was established in the Northeast corner of the first floor. Mr. Placide's lease was for six years.

The building was altered in 1842, for a Town Hall, at a cost of about \$2000. The third floor was removed and the second converted into one large room, sixty feet long, twenty-eight feet wide, and eighteen feet high with a gallery on three sides. Five hundred people could be accommodated there. The arches were fitted with windows or doors and used for stores.

From 1853 to 1900 the Market was used as a City Hall, and then finally passed into disuse, until 1928, when the exterior was restored and in 1930 the interior was entirely re-built by the generosity of John Nicholas Brown.

Through special arrangements with Mr. Brown, the City of Newport has leased this historic landmark to the Newport Chamber of Commerce for a period of thirty years. This is considered ideal as it makes possible the reopening of the Old Market House to the general public and also assures that it will be kept in excellent state of preservation for considerable time.

Today the exterior of the old building has its original lines. The interior, although slightly changed, from the original, to provide adequate accommodations for the new use, still retains its Colonial atmosphere of simple beauty and dignity.

The Chamber will have the building open to the public from nine o'clock to five o'clock daily, Sundays excepted, throughout the year.

*"To hold forth a lively experiment,
that a most flourishing civil state
may stand and best be maintained
with full liberty in religious con-
cernments."*—Royal Charter 1663



The first thing I did was to
take a walk through the
park and see what the
people were doing. I saw
many children playing
and some people sitting
on the grass. I also saw
some people walking
and talking to each other.



THE
STREET SCENE OF
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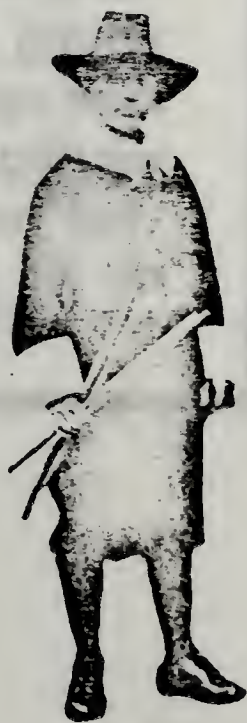
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Historic Newport



THE old town of Newport is looking forward to its three hundredth year of life—not now very far distant. In the centuries that have passed, many changes have come. What was at first an outpost of civilization became a thriving commercial port and capital of the colony. Revolution reduced the old town to the condition of a sleepy sea-side place, where the greatest charm was found in its quaint old-time aspect and in the beautiful old houses which had represented the best work of Colonial builders of the middle of the eighteenth century. As these were more and more appreciated, the tide of summer visitors set toward Newport. This tide has never ebbed, but continues in ever greater volume, as Newport's fame spreads farther—its climate and situation coming in for a share in this happy result.

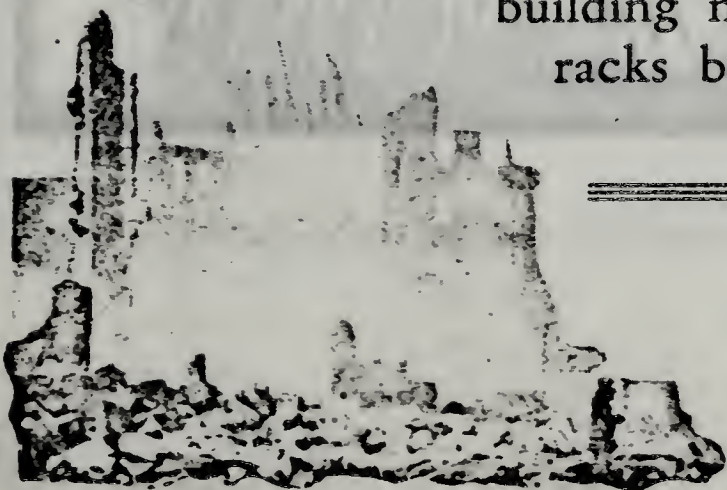
Old Newport was founded in 1639 by the Antinomians and other religious refugees from the Bay Colony. It was an offshoot of the colony founded a year earlier on the northern part of the island. In 1640, the two towns, which then had a population of nearly 1,000, united to form the "Colony of Rhode Island". In 1647, the colony united

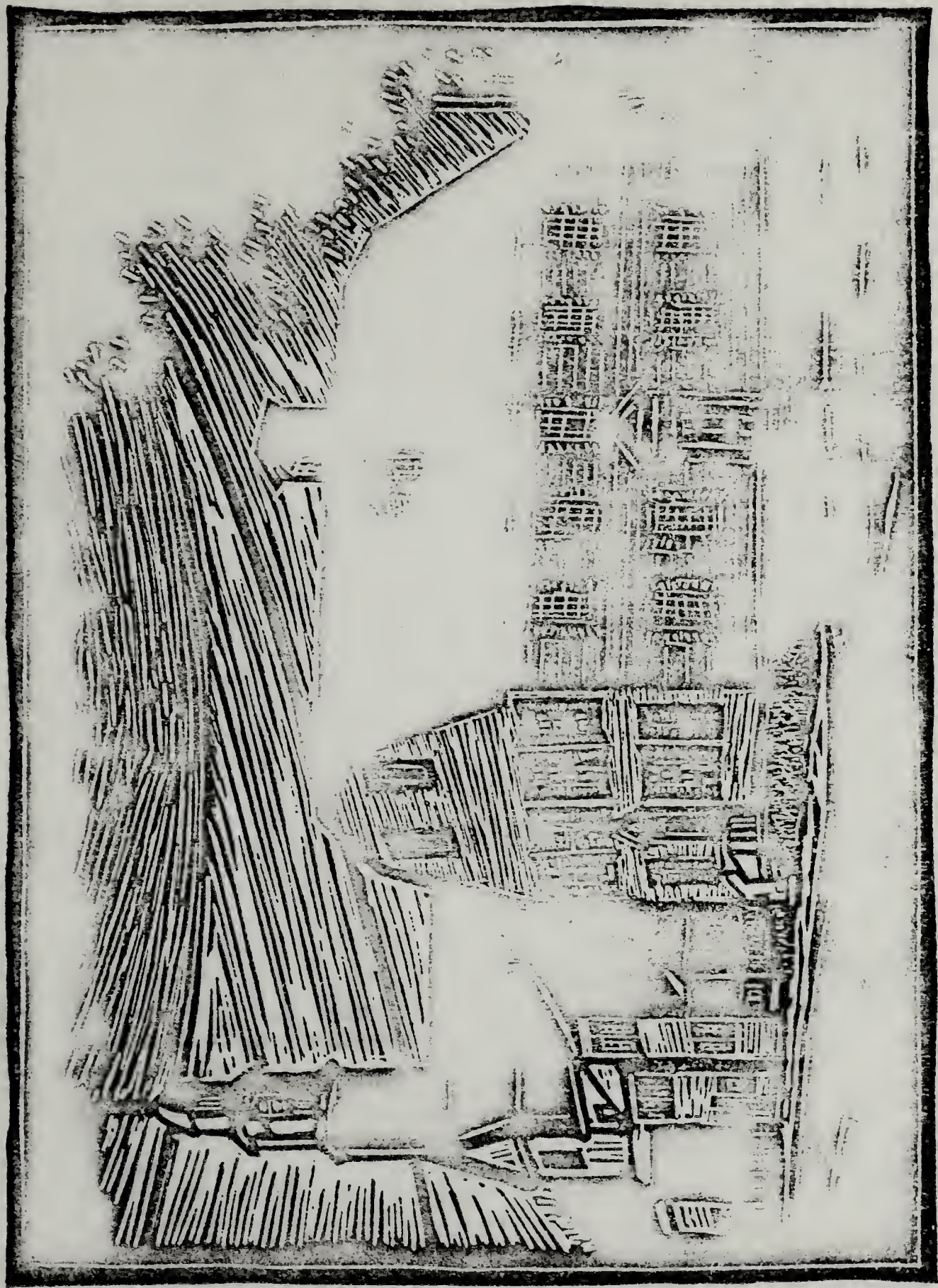


with Providence. The Baptist Church, established here in 1640, except for the one in Providence, is the oldest in the United States. Here, too, was opened the first public school in America, and possibly the first school accessible to all, supported by the public charge, in the world. Quakers, Moravians, Baptists, Jews, all found at Newport a haven of refuge.

From 1739 to 1760, the foundation of Newport's prosperity was laid through the establishment of the "Triangular Trade". The merchants of Newport waxed wealthy, importing molasses from the West Indies, distilling it into rum, which they exchanged in Africa for negroes, which in turn were exchanged in the Barbadoes for more molasses, and so the vicious circle ran on, to the great profit of Newport merchants, until through more molasses, more rum, more negroes, wealth accumulated and with it came fashion, function and ceremony. Before the outbreak of the Revolution the foreign trade of Newport was greater than that of New York, and the exalted social status of its wealthy citizens was recognized not only throughout the colonies, but in Jamaica and Antigua.

During the Revolution, the English and later the French occupied Newport, as it was an important strategic centre. This naturally killed its commerce. The British during their occupation greatly injured the town. Nearly a thousand buildings were destroyed. Trinity Church was the only important building not used as a hospital or barracks because of the crown on its





WHITE HORSE TAVERN—(1730) A typical pre-Revolutionary Tavern. Once meeting place
of General Assembly of State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

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spire. The long military occupation and the suppression of the slave trade, reduced Newport and Rhode Island generally to poverty. It was to Newport that Rochambeau sailed with his French army and made his headquarters while he restored the fortifications and redoubts which had been dismantled. Claude Blanchard, commissary-in-chief of the French forces, left some interesting records of his impressions of Americans as seen in Rhode Island: "The Americans are slow and do not decide promptly in matters of business. It is not easy for us to rely upon their promises. They love money and hard money. They do not eat soups and do not serve up ragouts at their dinners but boiled and roast and much vegetables. They drink nothing but cider and Madeira wine with water. The dessert is composed of preserved quinces and pickled sorrel. They do not take coffee immediately after dinner but it is served three or four hours after with tea. This coffee is weak and four or five cups are not equal to one of ours, so they take many of them. The tea on the contrary is very strong."

It was at this time that the Dumplings and the original Fort Adams were constructed. Brissot de Warville's record of his journey in the United States, in 1788, draws this melancholy picture of Newport at that time: "Houses falling to ruin; miserable shops; grass growing in the public square in front of the Court of Justice; rags stuffed in windows or hung upon hideous women and lean unquiet children."

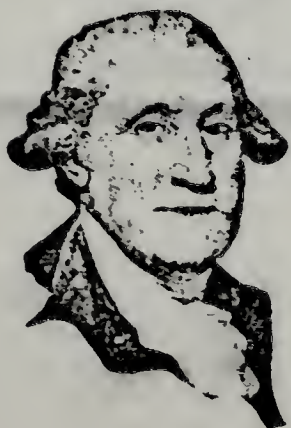


The first thing I noticed when I stepped
out of the train was a cold, damp
fog that seemed to wrap around me like a
blanket. I was in London, and the
atmosphere was just what I needed after
the long journey. The fog was not
just a nuisance, it was a part of the
city's character. I had heard that
London was a city of contrasts, and
this fog was the perfect example of
that. It was a mix of the old and the
new, the traditional and the modern.
I was standing on a street that had
been around for centuries, and I could
see the old buildings and the new
ones side by side. The fog was
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Washington Square, or the Parade, the centre of Old Newport, contains the statue of Oliver Hazard Perry, the hero of Lake Erie. It stands nearly opposite the old Seixas mansion, Perry's last residence. At the head of the Square is the Old State House, built in 1739, and until recently used as the County Court House. At the foot of the Square is the Old Brick Market, designed and built by Peter Harrison in 1762. Close by, on the corner of Marlborough and Farewell Streets is the old Nichols House which about 1739 became famous as the "White Horse Tavern", and the old jail where the prisoners grumbled because there were no locks and honor forbade them to escape,—a strange example, if it is true, of "honor among thieves". Below on the Market, is Long Wharf, where Washington and Rochambeau reviewed the French troops and where the funeral cortege of Admiral de Tierney landed in 1780. But wait—we cannot possibly see all of these treasures hurrying along in this fashion. Let us walk up the hill to the Old Stone Mill and here start our trip through Old Newport.



THE OLD STONE MILL



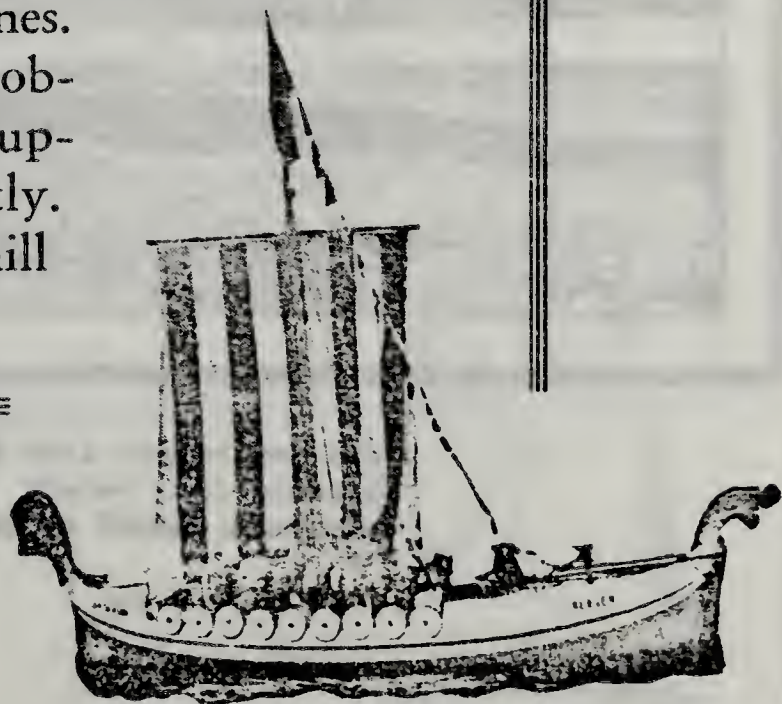
WITHIN an iron fence on the north side of Touro Park stands one of the oldest buildings in the United States. The latest possible date for its erection is 1677, a poor fifty years from the landing of the Pilgrims; and indications are not lacking that would make it fully nine hundred years old. Of its erection, there are no records. When first mentioned, it is of considerable antiquity. From its vantage point on the hill, it has surveyed Narragansett Bay and local history. In its shade drilled the cadets of the Naval Academy when in '61 it was transferred to this city; about it has raged controversy interminable. It has been the scene of political banquets and the rendezvous of McAllister's 400. Celebrated by Longfellow's "Skeleton in Armor":

"There for my lady's bower
Built I this lofty tower
Which to this very hour
Stands looking seaward."

and Fenimore Cooper's "Red Rover", its reputation is as firmly established as its supporting piers.

That the Old Stone Mill was not the work of the Indians is obvious to any who are acquainted with the customs of the aborigines. Discounting as possible but improbable innumerable theories, two suppositions stand out prominently.

The first supposes that the mill



THE NEW YORK TIMES

1871 is not far from the date of the
 first of the great war in the
 history of the United States. The
 war broke out in 1861, and
 a few days from the outbreak of the
 war, and the war was not
 long in reaching its height. The
 war was not a war of
 the kind which is usually
 called a war of aggression,
 but a war of self-defense.
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THE NEW YORK TIMES
 PUBLISHED DAILY
 AT NO. 10 NASSAU ST.
 BY J. M. BROWN.

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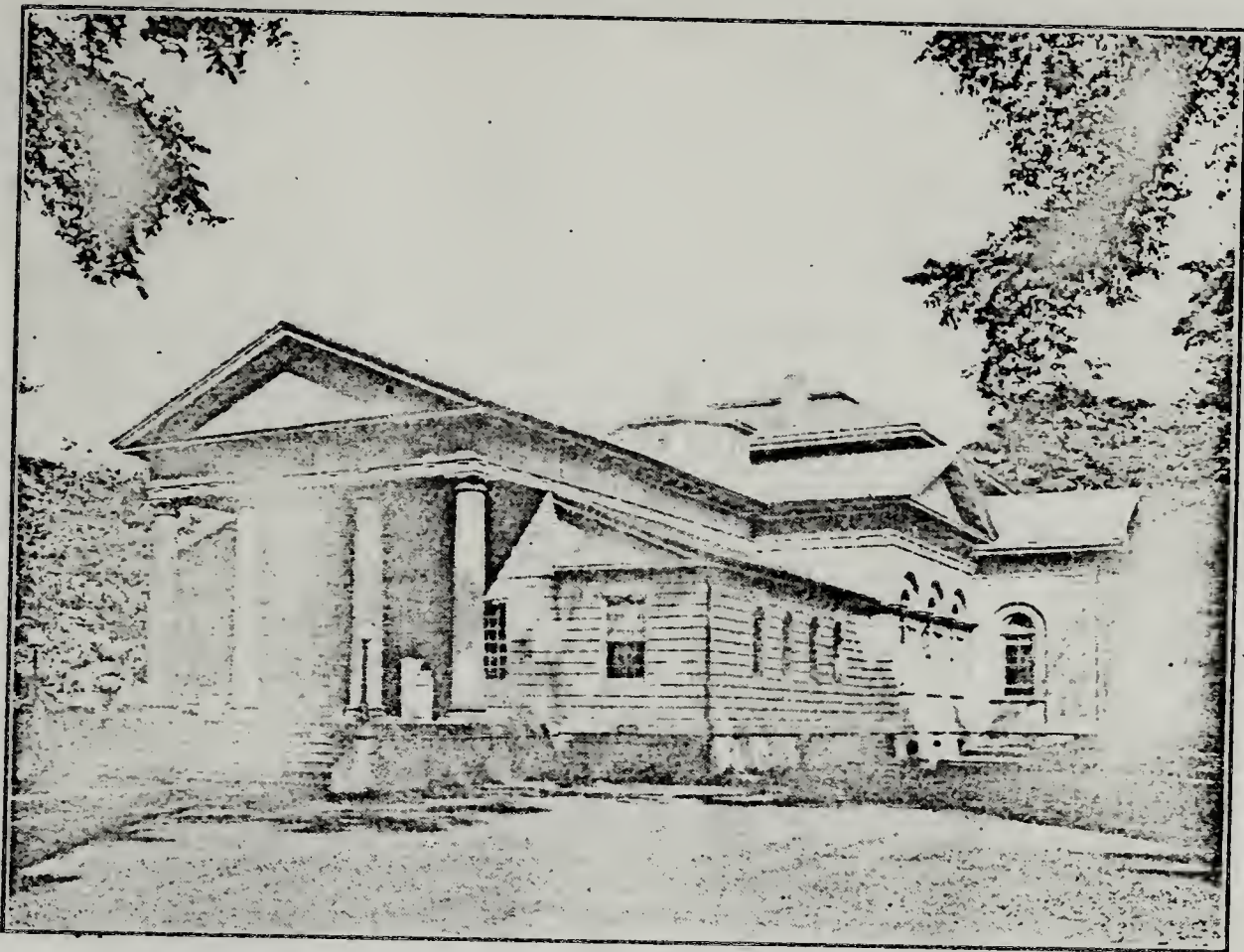


THE OLD STONE MILL—One of America's oldest structures. Theory often advanced that tower was built by Vikings about year 1040 A. D.

is all that remains of a Norse church or baptistery, such as are to be found in Europe today. If correct, this would date the tower from around the year 1040 A.D. It presupposes that Narragansett Bay was the "Hop" of the sagas, the Vinland of Adam of Bremen, and the diocese of Bishop Eric. To the first, the name of Mount Hope, a nearby eminence, may be a witness. Wild grapes are still abundant along the local shores, so that Vinland is not inappropriate. And for the last, the tower itself may be the sole surviving evidence. A further evidence that here is Vinland is the fact that north of Vinland, and to the east, the sagas speak of the "Wonder Sands"; can these be other than the long rolling dunes of Cape Cod?

The received tradition that the tower is the ruin of a windmill built by Governor Arnold, an early executive of the colony, is unprovable. There is no direct evidence that it was used as a windmill. It was early regarded as a ruin and good place for temporarily storing powder, for which purpose it was used in the early French wars. Nor is it likely that the infant colony, not forty years old when it is mentioned in the Governor's will, could have afforded as magnificent a building or the skill to erect it. It is possible and even probable that the settlers found and rebuilt an earlier ruin, using it temporarily for a mill. Of such a remodeling the superstructure bears unmistakable signs to the archaeologists' eyes.





Redwood—1747—One of America's First Libraries

A further interest attaches to this building for those versed in esoteric symbolism. The orientation of the piers and the windows; the use of geometrical forms; and finally the insignia of Freemasonry on a prominent stone in the south side; all should provide, and have provided, much material for contemplation.

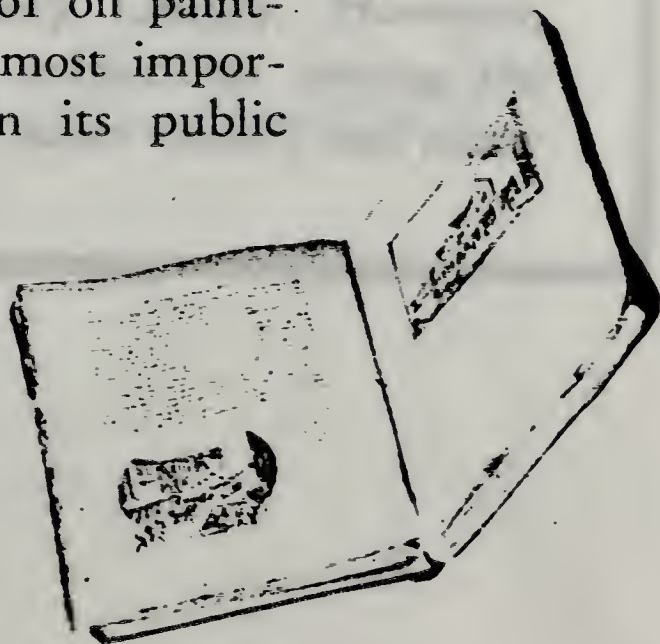


REDWOOD LIBRARY AND ATHENAEUM



N interesting piece of Colonial Newport is the Redwood Library on Bellevue Avenue. Founded September 4, 1747, as the successor of the Philosophical Society of 1730, with which Bishop Berkeley was closely associated, it is probably the seventh oldest existing library in the country. Only those of three colleges — Harvard, William and Mary, and Yale — and three Philadelphia libraries — the Library Company, the Carpenters' Company and the American Philosophical Society — antedate it. But unlike these libraries, the Redwood still uses its original building built in 1750 and enlarged in 1859, 1875 and 1913. The architect of the original building which is now the Bellevue avenue end of the structure was Peter Harrison, one of the most famous of Colonial architects, other specimens of whose work in Newport may be seen in the Market House and the Touro Synagogue. The Library received its name from its principal founder, Abraham Redwood, a Quaker who gave five hundred pounds and served as its president from 1747 to 1788. Perhaps the most distinguished name connected with it is that of President Ezra Stiles of Yale College who served for many years as librarian.

Besides its 77,000 volumes, the Redwood Library possesses a large collection of oil paintings and sculpture of which the most important works are on exhibition in its public rooms. Among the gems of the

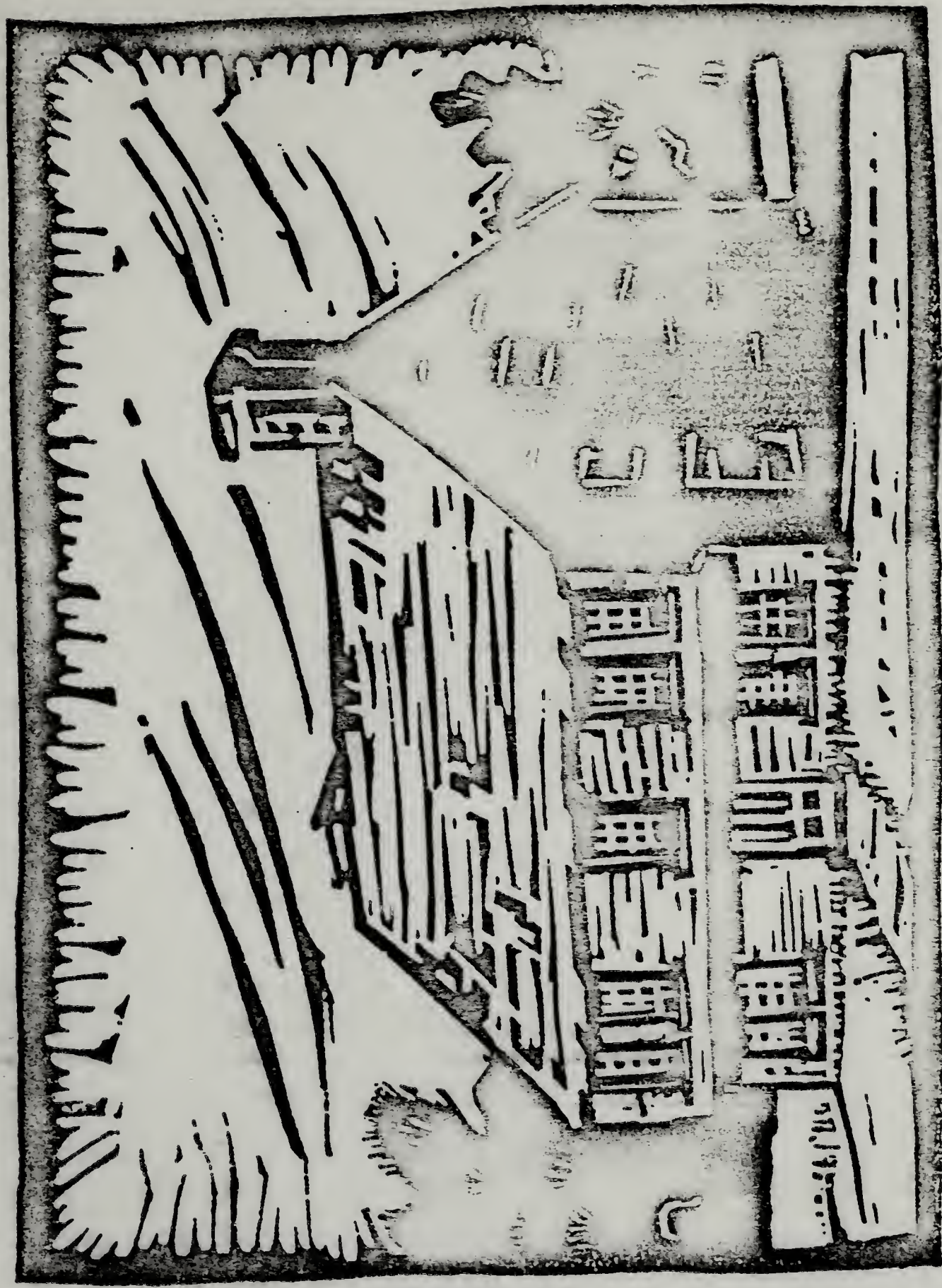


collection are five oil paintings by Gilbert Stuart; two of them painted at the age of fifteen. There is a splendid bust of Stuart, of which a copy in bronze may be seen in New York in the Hall of Fame. Other painters represented are Sir Thomas Lawrence, Robert Feke, John Smybert, Washington Allston and Thomas Sully. More than half of the oil paintings are from the brush of Charles Bird King, who gave or bequeathed to the library over a hundred of his canvasses; among them portraits of twenty Indian chiefs painted from life.

Other noteworthy objects are Mrs. Redwood's table and fifteen fine old chairs whose history is unknown. On either side are two links and a swivel from the huge iron chain stretched across the Hudson River during the Revolution to keep the British ships from ascending the stream. On the left is a wheel from the first locomotive used on the first railroad of any length in America — from Charleston, S. C., to Augusta, Ga. At the corner of Bellevue Avenue and Redwood Street is a beautiful fern-leaf beech tree.

The idea of a free public library originated in the middle of the Nineteenth Century. The Redwood Library, founded a hundred years earlier, naturally followed the then prevailing model of the Society Library. However, it welcomes subscribers among the summer and other visitors and many





CODDINGTON HOUSE—(1641) House of William Coddington, a founder of Newport and Governor 1640-47, 1674-78, 1678. House demolished 1835

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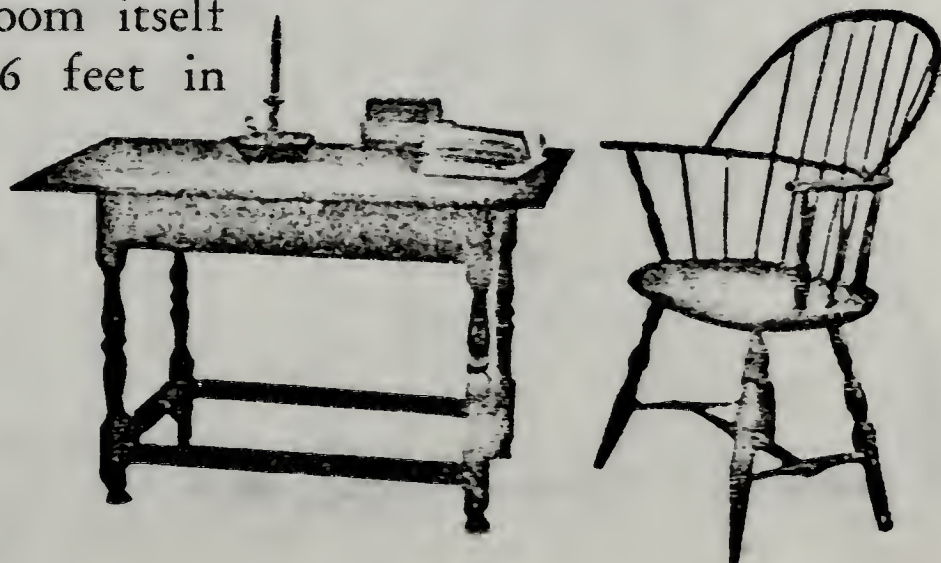


avail themselves of its privileges. While a charge is made for the use of the books and of the reading room, the exhibits in the beautiful Marquand Room are free to all visitors during library hours — daily, except Sundays and legal holidays, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The entrance to the building is on Redwood Street.

THE SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Newport Historical Society, at 82 Touro Street, is rich in the possession of many rare and valuable objects, among which perhaps the most precious is the Seventh Day Baptist Church, purchased by the Society in 1884. For eighteen years, this edifice was the Society's home; in it were stored its library, its documents, its historic relics; and all its meetings and literary exercises were held within its walls. When the present home of the Society was built, the little church was incorporated in the structure, and the entrance to it is at the farther end of the main hall.

Visitors to the Society's room are always strongly impressed with the view of the little old church. It is a pure example of colonial architecture, the moulding and paneling is all handwrought; the carving of the railing of the curved flight of steps which lead up to the pulpit, is of exquisite workmanship. The size of the room itself is unique, only 36 feet in length by 26 in





SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH
Built in 1729. A marvelous example
in an excellent state of preservation
of pure Colonial architecture.

breadth. It was built in 1729, and is therefore only a few years younger than Newport's famous old Trinity. The pulpit and the sounding board are beautiful in design and execution, and the clock which hangs opposite them in the gallery is a work of art in itself. It was made by William Claggett, a Newport clock maker, in 1731, has the same works in it which he placed there, is still running, and keeps excellent time. There is a clock of William Claggett's make in the Metropolitan Museum in New York City.

On the wall is a bronze tablet on which is inscribed:

"To the memory of 'William Hiscox, Stephen Mumford, Samuel Hubbard, Roger Baster, Sister Hubbard, Sister Mumford, Sister Rachel Langworthy, etc.', who for greater freedom in the exercise of religious faith in the observance of God's Holy Sabbath—the Seventh Day of the week—reluctantly severed their connection with the parent church of Newport, and 'entered into a church covt. the 23 day of December 1671', thereby establishing the Seventh Day Baptist Church of that faith in the new world."

The little old church is the Mecca of the Seventh Day Baptist's Society in the United States. But a few years ago, the organization came to Newport for the sole purpose of celebrating in this sanctuary the two-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of



its organization in this country. The Society's rooms were thronged with the gathering of devout worshippers, and their singing, without instrumental accompaniment, was particularly beautiful and impressive. Since then, once a year, in October, they come to hold a commemorative service in our little church. Its chief use, however, is as a meeting room for the Newport Historical Society itself, and for various organizations which find it particularly convenient and adaptable for their purposes. Many eloquent addresses have been delivered from the platform beneath the pulpit — addresses that have swayed public opinion, or led the imagination into fields old and new, of beauty and charm, in our own country and abroad.

Some of the objects of especial interest in the collections of the Newport Historical Society are: the Commission of William Coddington, 1651; the log of the "Lawrence", flagship of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry; the will of John Clarke, founder of Newport; the pillory which was in use on Washington Square by the side of the Old Court House in 1825; the old bow show window, used in Dr. Eek's Shop on Washington Square and Dr. Johnson's Shop on Thames Street; the stove used in Trinity Church in 1810; the organ keyboard given to Trinity Church by Dean Berkeley in 1773; the first cook stove made in Newport by the Stanley Iron Works in 1845; the wainscot chair owned and used by Governor Benedict Arnold while





JOHN CLARKE CHURCH—Organized in 1638 it claims distinction as oldest Baptist Church in America. Founded by Dr. John Clarke, author of the Royal Charter of 1663.

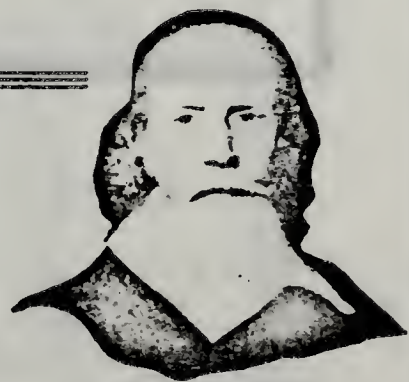


WITH CHURCH DEDICATED TO THE HOLY TRINITY
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 OF THE HOLY TRINITY - CHURCH DEDICATED TO THE HOLY TRINITY
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governor of Rhode Island, 1657; the mahogany desk, made by Thomas Goddard, famous cabinet maker of Newport; portrait of the MacGregor family, also carpet bag and cradle which belonged to them—the father, Alexander MacGregor, coming over from Scotland with his family in 1825 to help build Fort Adams; town measures and weights issued to the town of Newport in 1713; exhibit of Quaker costumes, hats, shawls, etc.; files of Newport Mercury from 1758 to present day including one copy of the Newport Gazette, printed by the British during their occupation of Newport, 1776-1779; model of a typewriter patented by S. W. Francis, October 27, 1857; boat given to Ida Lewis, "the Grace Darling of America", by the citizens of Newport, 1869.

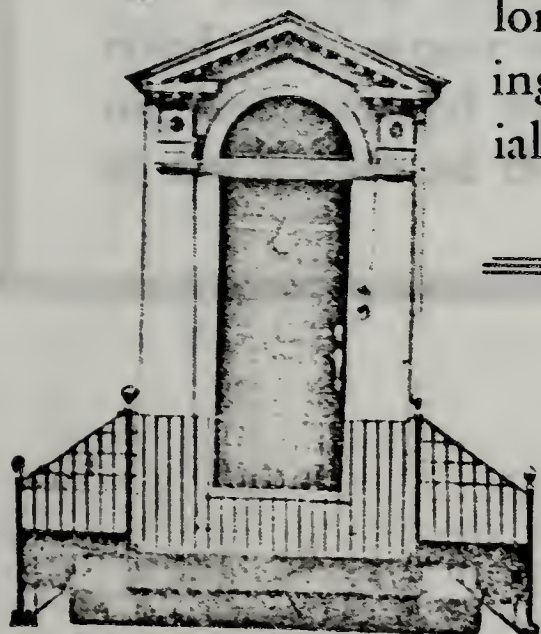
*FIRST BAPTIST JOHN CLARKE
MEMORIAL CHURCH*

Situated on the east side of Spring Street, midway between Touro Street and Broadway, is the meeting house of the First Baptist John Clarke Memorial Church, which is the oldest church organization in Newport. Its founder and first pastor was Dr. John Clarke. Born in England and educated in Holland, Dr. Clarke was a man of recognized learning and ability. He was by profession both a physician and a clergyman. He was among the first settlers of Portsmouth in 1638 and of Newport in 1639, was well versed in law as well as in medicine



and theology, and his guiding hand is recognized in the earliest legislation of the Rhode Island Colony. He was the author and procurer of the famous Royal Charter of 1663, granted by King Charles II, which made Rhode Island the first free commonwealth of the world. Dr. Clarke was influential in securing a free school for Newport in 1640, and the John Clarke School on Mary Street has been named for him. The Newport Medical Society has a tablet on the walls of the Newport Historical Society to "John Clarke, Physician". The First Baptist John Clarke Memorial Church was organized in Portsmouth in 1638. Dr. Clarke remained its pastor until his death in 1676. It claims the distinction of being the oldest Baptist Church in America. The church has occupied several meeting houses in different locations. The present structure was erected in 1846. Communion ware of ancient date is owned by the church; and valuable records of historic interest, of which the Newport Historical Society is custodian, have been preserved. Near the corner of Callendar Avenue, on West Broadway, is an ancient burial ground belonging to the church, which is a part of some property once owned by Dr. Clarke and deeded by him to the church. Here his grave is to be found. On a stone erected by his assigns is a

long inscription reciting the outstanding events of his illustrious life. The burial ground is protected by a concrete



wall which the Men's Club of the First Baptist Church erected by popular subscription and the place is given perpetual care by the assigns of the John Clarke estate.

THE GOVERNORS' CEMETERY

At the corner of Farewell and North Baptist Streets is a small cemetery which contains the graves of several early colonists of Rhode Island among them being five Governors; Nicholas Easton, the two Coddingtons, Henry Bull and John Easton. The monument marking the grave of the first Coddington was erected by the town of Newport on May 12, 1839, in connection with the second centennial anniversary of the settlement of the town. The inscription reads: "to the memory of William Coddington, Esq., that illustrious man, who first purchased this island from the Narragansett sachems, Canonicus and Miantunomu, for and on account of himself and seventeen others, his associates in the purchase and settlement. He presided many years as chief magistrate of the Island and the colony of Rhode Island, and died much respected and lamented on the first day of November 1678, aged 78, and was here interred."

THE FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE

The first apostles of Quakerism arrived at Newport in 1657. Their preaching was received with gladness and many of the leaders of the community adopted



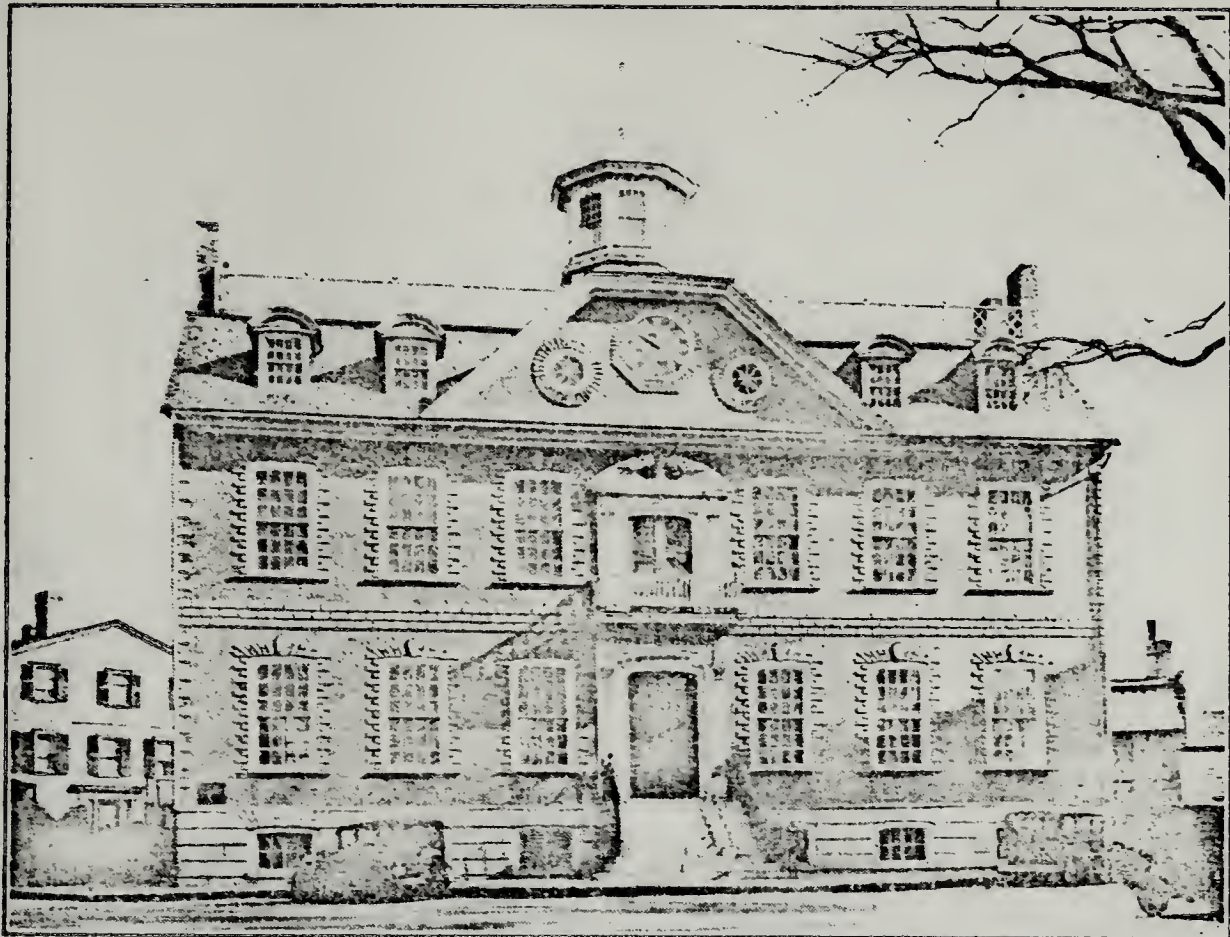


First Meeting House of the Quakers in America—1699

this faith. Henceforth, for half a century, Rhode Island was usually ruled by Friends, and was a Quaker State. For much of this period, the governors were Quakers. During the next century, while the Wanton dynasty was in power, four members of the Quaker faith filled the gubernatorial chair. Soon, the yearly meetings of the Friends of New England was established at Newport with records continuous since 1671.

The first meeting house of the Quakers to be built in America is on Marlborough Street. The





The Old Colony House—"Finest Building in the Colonies"

oldest part of this fine structure, known as the "Old Ship Room", dates from 1699. It is so called because of its construction. It is a most interesting relic which is carefully preserved as a memorial to the Quakers who occupied it for 225 years and because of its historic value and its architectural purity.

THE OLD COLONY HOUSE

At the head of Washington Square, the "Grand Parade", as it was called by the British at the time of the Revolution, stands the ancient Colony House. A fine, impressive build-



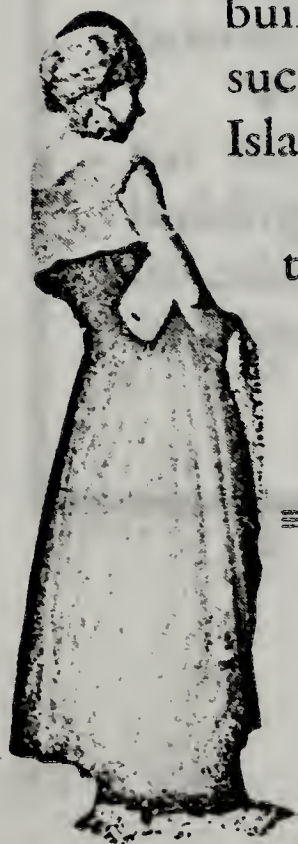
ing this, of brick with stone foundation and trimmings, with ample doorways approached by wide flights of steps, a balcony on the second story and that air of distinction which age and history have imparted to it.

Built in 1739, from the plans of Richard Munday, it had the repute of being the finest building in the colonies and today will certainly hold its own with any American public building of early days now extant.

Its interior shows throughout, a wealth of beautiful and artistic detail. The history of the Colony and afterwards of the State of Rhode Island is most intimately associated with this old building. It was used in its early days for various purposes. Here sessions of the courts were held. Public meetings, religious and social functions of importance took place within its walls. The first lectures on medical science delivered in this country were those of Dr. William Hunter given in the Council Room in 1756.

From the balcony, in 1761, the death of King George II of England was officially proclaimed. The ascendancy of King George III was celebrated in the building by an elaborate banquet, the last times that such ceremonies were ever to take place in Rhode Island.

Here in 1766, the people assembled to celebrate the repeal of the Stamp Act. Three years later, the non-intercourse movement was endorsed by a meeting called for the purpose. In this building



sat the commission to examine into the burning of the Gaspee. Here was the first meeting in Rhode Island to resist the importation of tea from England. Here the Assembly accepted the Declaration of Independence, and it was read from the steps to the assembled people.

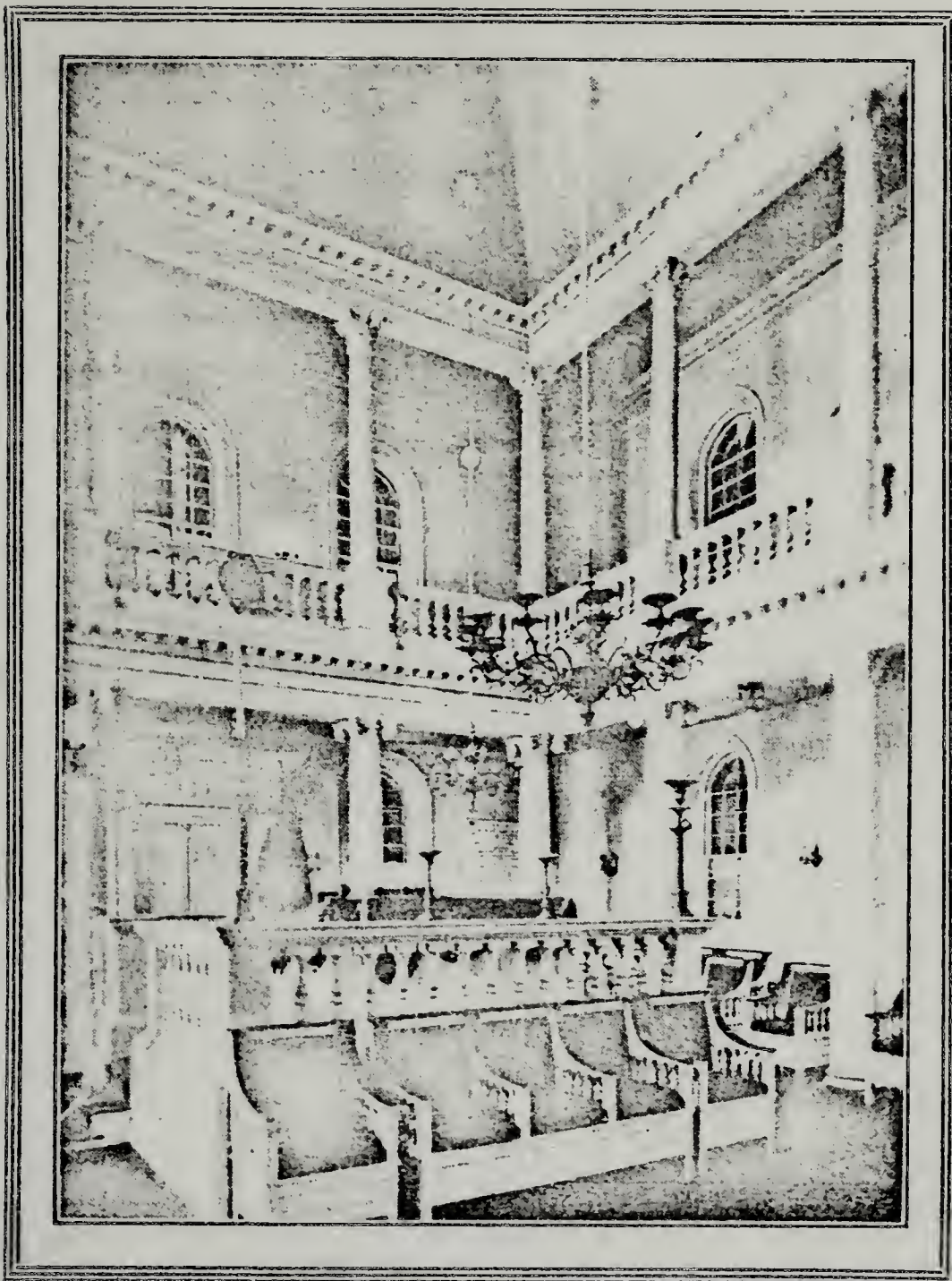
During the Revolution, the building was used by both British and French as a hospital, and a tablet records the fact that the South Chamber was used by Chaplains of French regiments for the reservation of the Blessed Sacrament and the celebration of Mass.

When Washington came to visit the French allies, he was entertained at dinner in this building and, since that time, Adams, Jefferson, Jackson, Fillmore and other presidents have been received within its walls.

In 1790, the convention which adopted the Constitution assembled here and made Rhode Island one of the United States. Newport was designated as one of the two capitals of the state, and in this building, known until 1900 as the State House, the legislature had a yearly session at which the election of governors and other state officials was proclaimed from its balcony.

Within the past few years, a new court house has been built, and this fine old building completely renovated and its colonial architecture and original lines preserved.





TOURO SYNAGOGUE, dedicated 1763.
Named after Rabbi Isaac Touro, founder of first recognized congregation. Is oldest synagogue in America.

THE JEWISH SYNAGOGUE



JEWS were found in Newport as early as 1656, having come from Europe and the West Indies. They were kindly received and given protection in the Colony of Rhode Island.

Rabbi Isaac Touro came to Newport from Jamaica in the West Indies having gone there from Lisbon, Portugal. He was a distinguished scholar, theologian, and of strong Hebrew devotion. He soon became a leader among his people and an associate of men of culture and refinement. Prior to his advent in the colony, there appears to have been no regular organized congregation or place of worship, and services were conducted where convenient and opportunity afforded. In 1758, Rabbi Touro established the first regularly recognized congregation under the name of Yoshmot Israel, signifying the "Strength of Israel".

After organizing the congregation the next step was to provide a place of worship and with the co-operation of his co-religionists and their friends, the lot of land on Touro Street was purchased. The foundation of this edifice was laid in 1759 and dedicated December 3, 1763.

The architect was Peter Harrison who designed Blenheim House in England and many historic buildings in Newport.



During the Revolution, the synagogue escaped some of the vandalism of the English soldiery, though confiscation, plunder, campfires and army exactions left little of the large Hebrew property. Within its walls in 1789 was held the first session of the General Assembly after the British had evacuated Newport. The Superior Court of Rhode Island shortly after the British evacuation also met in this ancient edifice, and within its walls before the Ark of God and the laws of Moses, dispensed justice to mankind.

Many priceless relics are within its walls among which is a scroll of laws more than 400 years old which tradition says was brought to the shores of America by one of the refugees from the Spanish Inquisition.

THE OLD BRICK MARKET HOUSE

This building, standing at the corner of Long Wharf and Thames Street, dates back to 1760 at which time the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations passed an act establishing a lottery by means of which money was to be raised to build a "Brick Market".

The interesting story of this old structure, Peter Harrison designed, and the important part which it has played in the history of Newport is told in a folder entitled "The Story of the Old City Hall". This pamphlet may be obtained at the office of the Newport Chamber of Commerce.



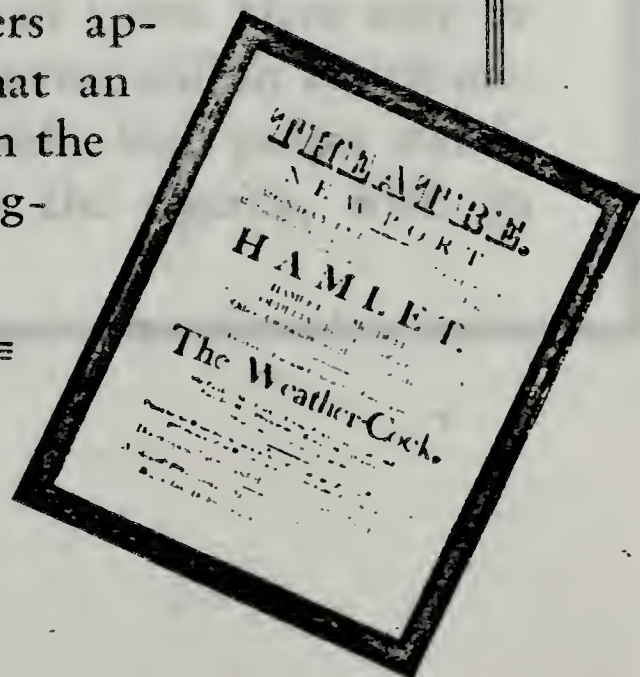
OLD TRINITY CHURCH

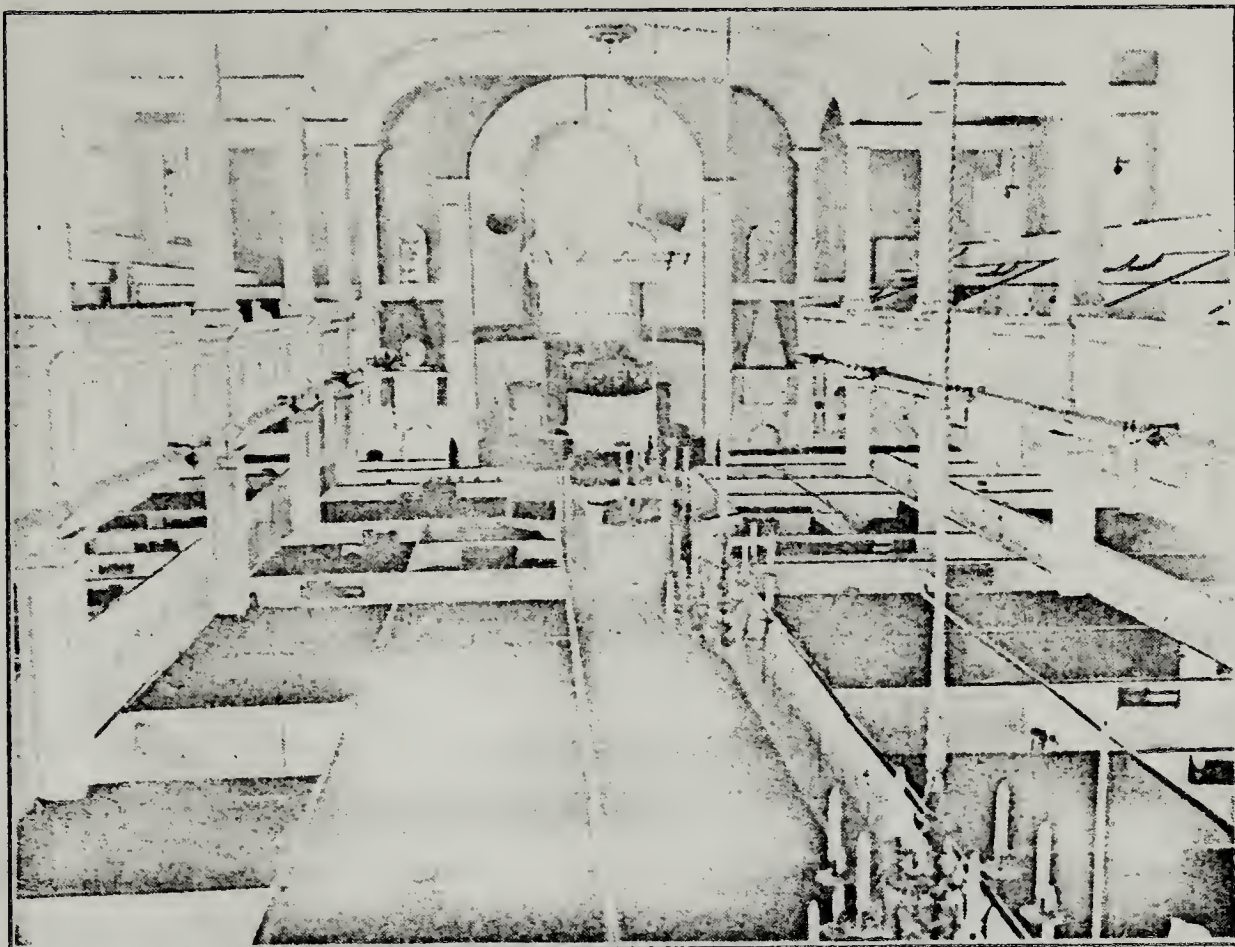


NE of the most historic and interesting structures in Newport is Old Trinity Church. It stands a supreme and matchless reminder of Colonial America. It is considered an exceptional example of craftsmanship in wood-working. It has beheld the changing fortunes of Newport for over two centuries, the present edifice being finished in 1726, thus antedating the Revolutionary period by many years. Trinity Church was the only important building not used as a hospital or barracks, because of the crown on its spire.

The beautiful and stately spire of Trinity, from a design of the famous Christopher Wren of London is the most striking feature of the exterior. The steeple is a conspicuous land mark, dominating the whole harbor front and served as a beacon for the mariners of old to steer their vessels into port. The clock inside was made by William Claggett, noted clockmaker and friend of Benjamin Franklin.

One of the most memorable and dramatic days in the history of Trinity Church was the 23rd of January, 1729. On that day the rector was conducting services when two messengers appeared at the door to tell him that an eminent clergyman was on a ship in the inner harbor, just arrived from Eng-

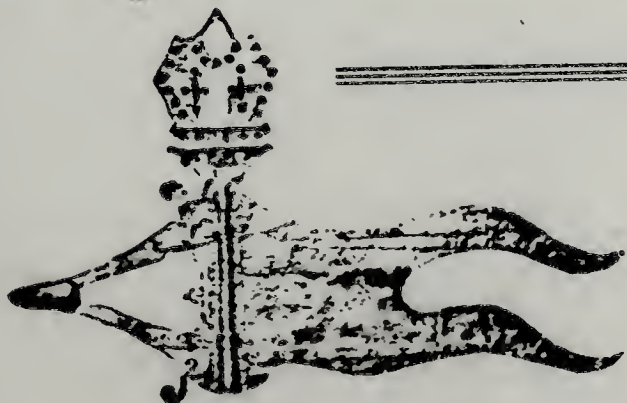




Old Trinity—A Matchless Reminder of Colonial America

land, and might be expected to land at any moment. This was Dean Berkeley, the great English scholar, author and divine. The congregation was dismissed, and the minister and all the people hastened to Ferry Wharf to meet and welcome the visitor.

The peaceful and inspiring Colonial atmosphere of Trinity has been reverently preserved. The inside, therefore, has lost none of its original charm and beauty with the passage of years. Here may be seen the square, high-backed pews, still in active use. Most impressive is the venerable, high pulpit standing out near the middle of the church, with its





TRINITY CHURCH. One of the most historic and interesting structures in America. Considered an exceptional example of craftsmanship in woodworking. Present structure finished in 1726

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1820

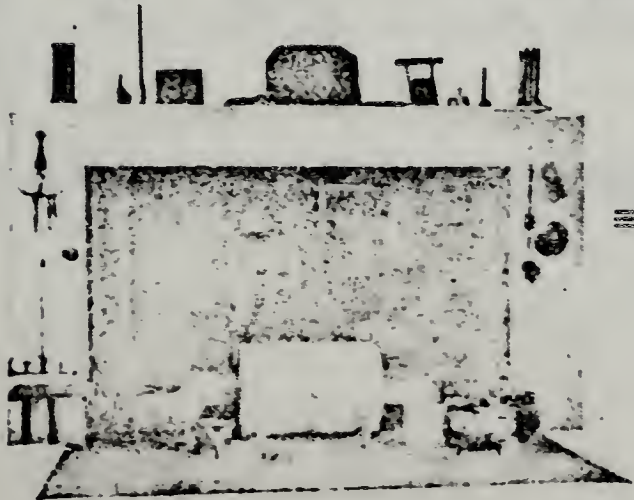
THE
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COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY
AT
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

sounding board. From this many noted men have delivered sermons, including Dean Berkeley and Reverend Samuel Seabury, the first American bishop of the Episcopal Church.

The two side walls are adorned with a series of rich memorial tablets of men and women who worshipped at Trinity. In the little churchyard are the graves and tombstones of many leaders of the church, naval heroes and others. There is a monument to Admiral deTernay, who commanded the French fleet in these waters during the Revolution.

WANTON-LYMAN-HAZARD HOUSE

There are many old houses, mostly of the period of greatest expansion, from 1750 on. An occasional relic of an older day still remains, however, and of these easily the most interesting, and probably very nearly the oldest, is the old house built in 1675, now standing on Broadway, but a short distance from the old Colonial Court House. This house, often called the old Hazard or Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House, is very quaint in appearance. Its huge pilastered chimney shows that at the time of its erection it was a dwelling of some pretensions, the curious broken roof line is also noteworthy. Within are curious twisting stairways, the ancient kitchen chimney-place, with its fire back and crane still in position, paneling of the best period and old blue tiles to testify to the





WANTON-LYMAN-HAZARD HOUSE—(1675) Probably the oldest house now standing in Newport. This historic shrine recently restored, embodies much of Newport's long and honorable history.



(1891) — THE OLD FISHING BOAT
 and the harbor of Seattle, Wash.
 The old fishing boat, which was
 built in 1880, and was the first
 of the kind ever built in the
 city.

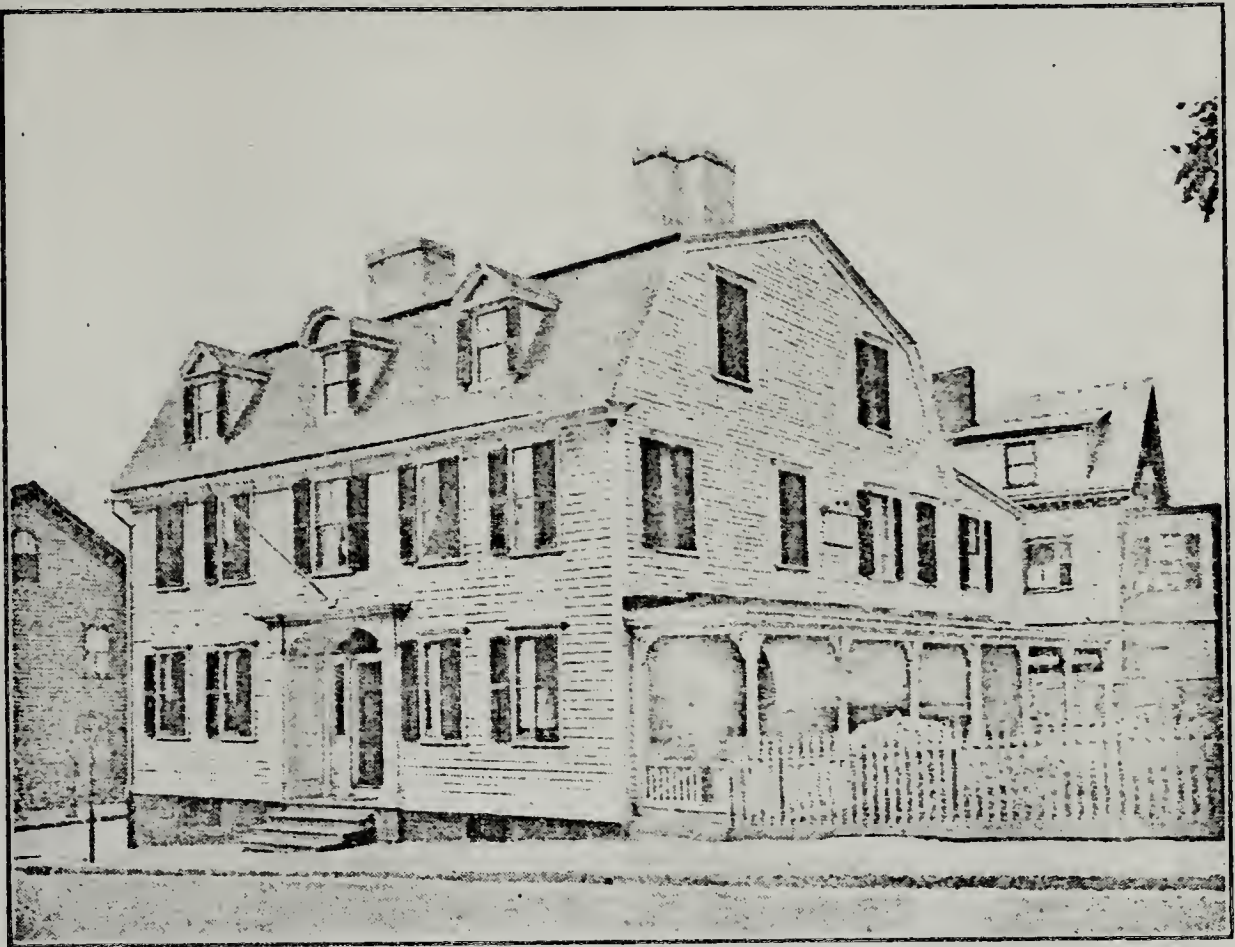
value that successive owners set upon their cherished possessions.

Nor is this all. Much history has been enacted here. We can remember the struggles of our forefathers for liberty as we look on these walls, for here took place one of those stamp tax riots which marked the indignation of all true patriots, at King George's tyrannical measures, as they thought them. Martin Howard, a Tory, found that his position as Stamp Master cost him dearly, when his house was looted, door and window frames torn out and an attempt made to destroy the chimney. Ten years before Concord and Lexington, Newport ranged itself thus strongly on the patriot side.

During the period of the French sojourn here, the old house was a favorite haunt of the gay young officers. They scrawled on the window pane with their diamond rings—"Charming Polly Wanton", for the Governor's son, John Wanton, now resided here with his family. Many are the stories told of their pleasure in frequenting the simple Quaker home.

This old house, so interesting in every way, has now been preserved and restored. All Newport has interested itself in the matter, making possible the opening of this historic shrine to the public during the summer season, a shrine embodying in itself something of Newport's long and honorable history, and illustrating the way of life of our forefathers, when King





Prescott House—Headquarters of British During Revolution

George ruled the land, in the days of the infant Republic.

PRESCOTT HOUSE

Situated at the corner of Spring and Pelham streets, is the Prescott or Bannister House, built between 1737 and 1767. Belonging to John Bannister who with his family left town at the outbreak of the war, General Prescott of the British Army, then took possession of it for his headquarters.





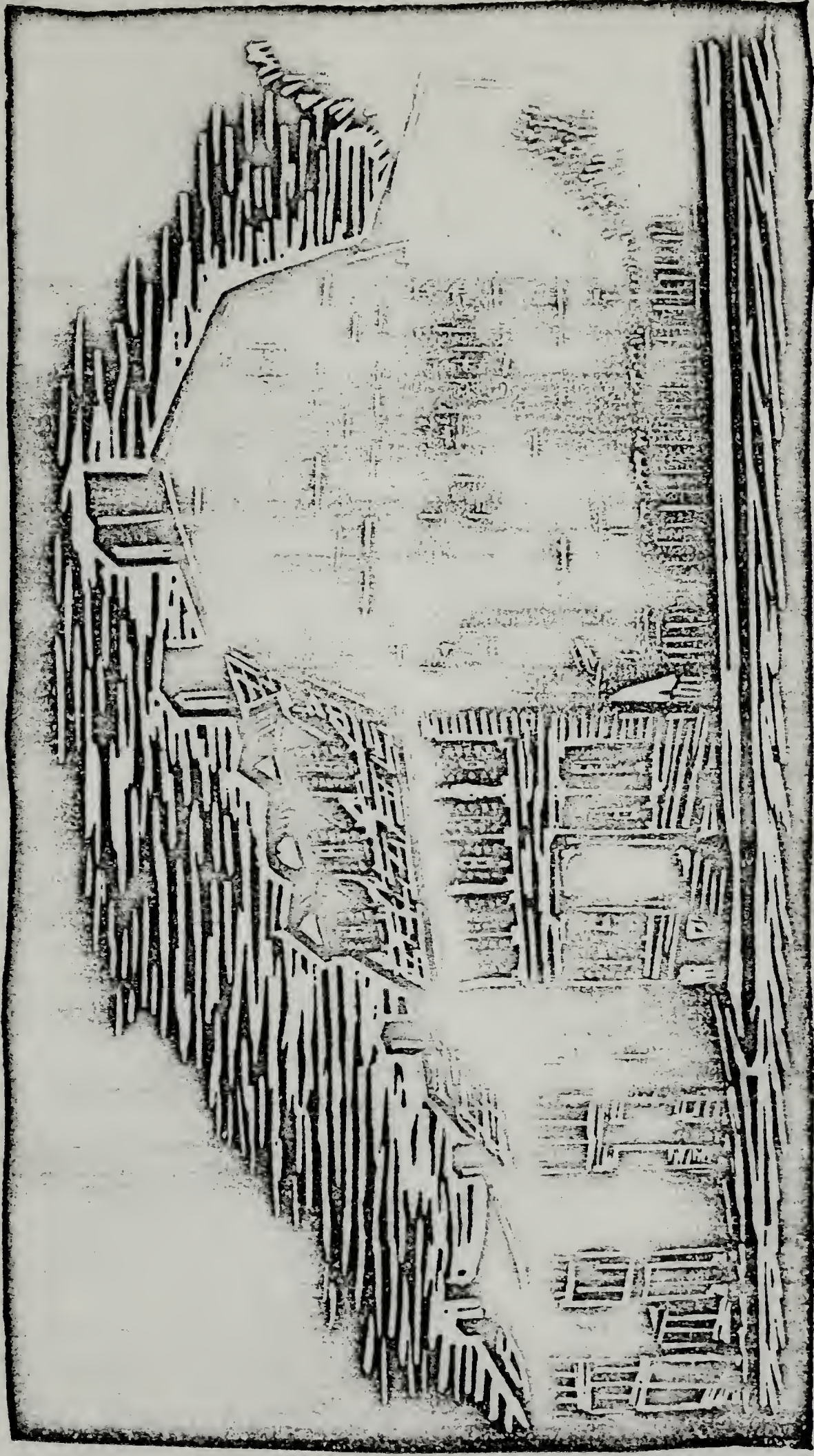
THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, NEW YORK

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, NEW YORK

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, NEW YORK





PRESCOTT HOUSE—Sometimes known as Sayer or Bannister House—occupied in 1777 by General Prescott, commander of the British Army.

507

WATERFALLS, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. (See page 100.)



JONATHAN NICHOLS HOUSE

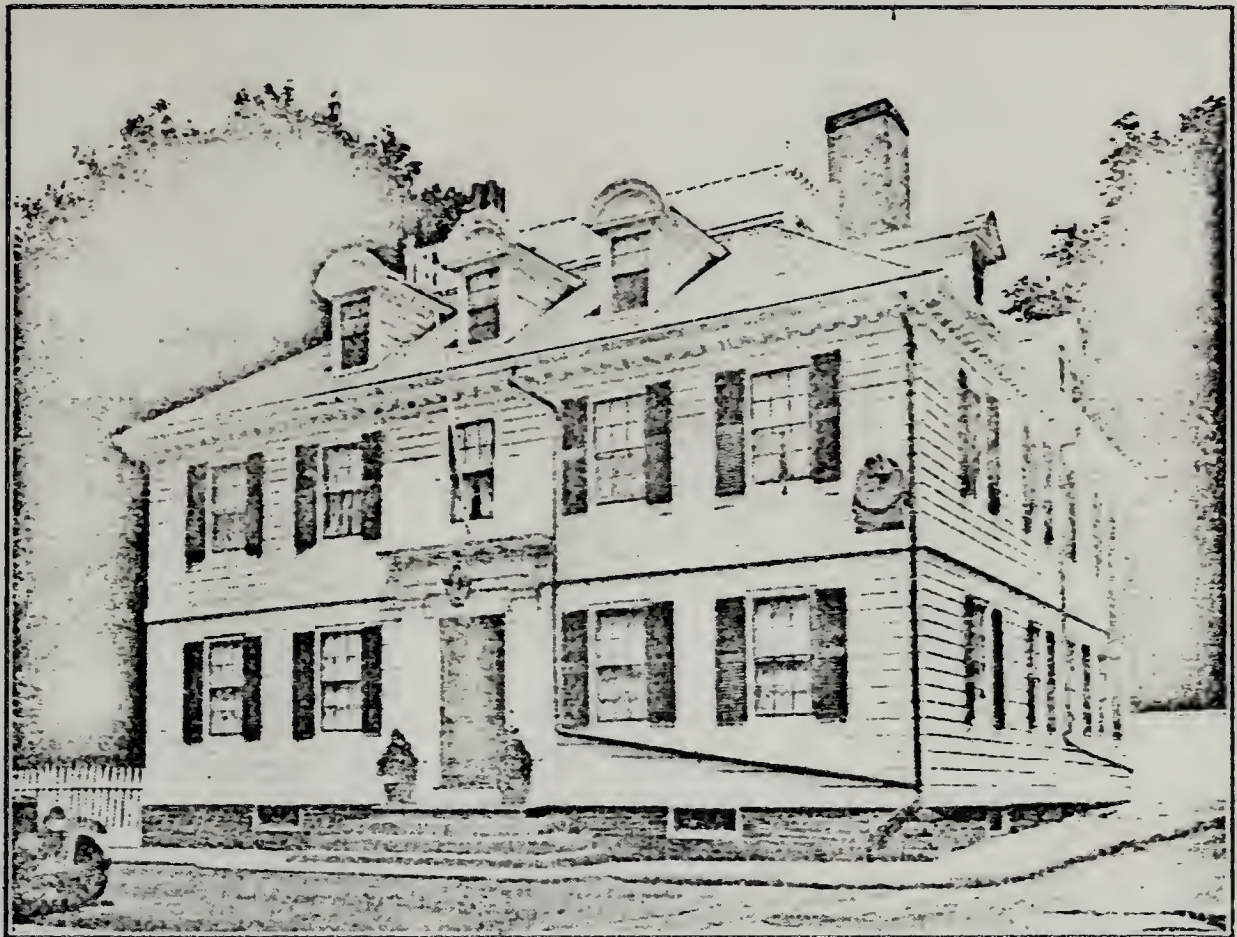


HIS house was built about 1730 and is located on the corner of Marlborough and Farewell Streets, and was then known as the "White Horse Tavern". The General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations is said to have met in its parlors because of its prominence in the minds of the legislators. It is also said there was considerable controversy as to the facing of the State House when it was built, as some thought it should face the Tavern and be in a direct walking line from it, but others urged that it face the water, the main highway of the town, which opinion fortunately prevailed.

SAMUEL VERNON HOUSE

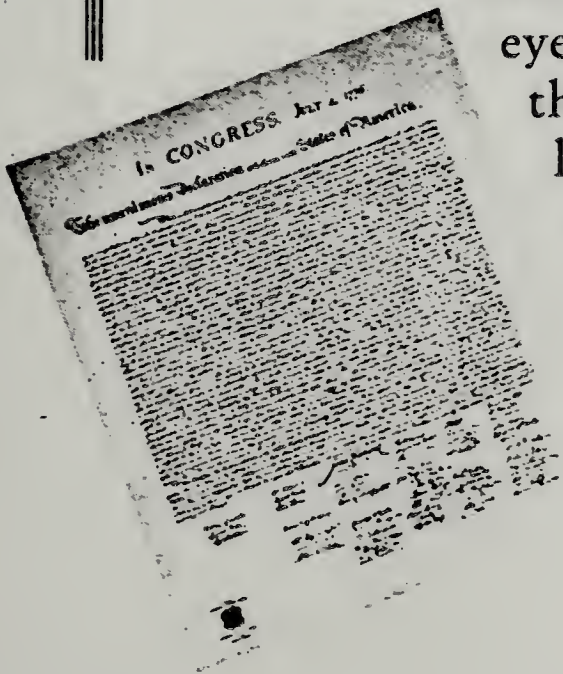
Built in 1758 by Metcalf Bowler, a wealthy merchant and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, this sturdy Georgian dwelling (now no longer a private residence, and hence open in part to the public) has been carefully preserved, and its beautiful interior woodwork, its mahogany balustrades and graceful shadow rail, its paneled chimney pieces and Delft-tiled hearths, give one quite a different conception of the "simplicity" of our ancestors from that fostered by our school histories. The house, too, is haunted by French ghosts. It was in this house that Rochambeau made his headquarters during the Revolution, and here in a ball-





Vernon House—Revolutionary Headquarters of French

room he built behind—since torn down—his officers entertained. Here, too, Washington and Lafayette were guests, and here the young Comte Axel de Fersen lived as aid to Rochambeau, and dreamed, no doubt, of Marie Antoinette, whose name he had fled to protect, because they could scarce look at each other without showing the love in their eyes. There is a bust of the Empress in the old hall now, and the ghost of her lover on the stairs. Newport without distinction before Manhattan



fashion came! What dandy of Ward McAllister's Four Hundred was the lover of an Empress?

This old house is at the corner of Clarke and Mary Streets, and here came Washington to confer with Rochambeau about the war in March 1781.

Also on Clarke Street is a house which was once the home of Washington Allston, the artist, and on the corner is the house formerly the home of William Ellery, Jr., son of the signer of the Declaration of Independence.

On Division Street is the home of Dr. Samuel Hopkins, the first clergyman in America to preach against human slavery.

On School Street is the birthplace of William Ellery Channing.

In the neighborhood near Washington Square on Touro Street are the Turner and Asher Robbins houses, also the house where Oliver Hazard Perry lived before his last voyage. This same house was occupied by Moses Levy when DeBivelle, the French quartermaster general, had his headquarters here during the Revolution.

TILLINGHAST HOUSE

This historic house, a typical example of the well-to-do merchant's mansion of the 18th Century, was built in 1760 by John Tillinghast. Subsequently it has been the home

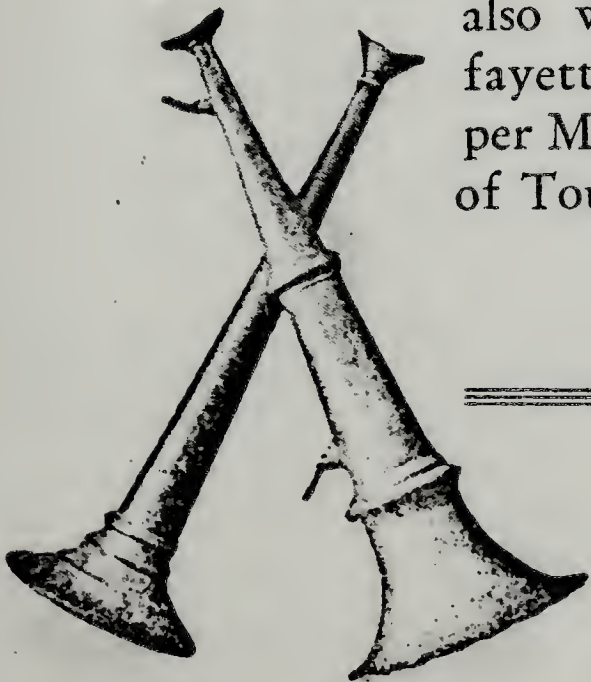




Tillinghast House—Typical 18th Century Mansion

of Colonel Archibald Cary, commander of the 2nd Rhode Island regiment in the Continental Army; of Pardon Tillinghast; of George Gibbs, a leading merchant and of William Gibbs, Governor of Rhode Island, 1821-1824. During the winter of 1780-1781, it was occupied by the French regiment of engineers and was the headquarters of General Greene. Here

also was entertained Baron Steuben, Lafayette and Kosciusko. It is located on upper Mill Street and has a commanding view of Touro Park and the Old Stone Mill.





Governor Malbone's Magnificent Country Estate

MALBONE HOUSES

This house is perhaps the most romantic of all places in or around Newport. The present house was built by J. Prescott Hall in 1850, but the stone used for a part of it was the same old stone of the first house built by Godfrey Malbone in 1744.

Tradition tells us that it was elegantly furnished, that it has a spiral staircase up which the proud lady of the house refused to let the country boys ascend to pour water on the roof when the house caught fire on the day of a great dinner party





Illustration of a house and garden

THE HOUSE

The house is a small, single-story building with a gabled roof. It is situated on a small plot of land, with a garden in front and a path leading to the door. The house is built of brick and has a chimney on the right side. The garden is filled with various plants and flowers, and there is a small pond in the center. The path is made of stones and leads from the road to the front door. The house is a typical example of a small, single-story building in the early 20th century.



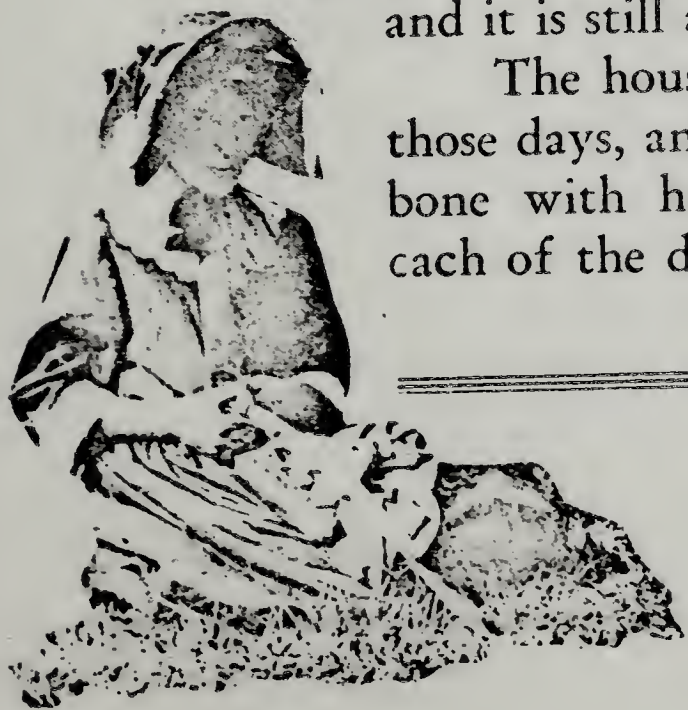


Town House and Office of Governor Malbone

which her husband was giving to his ship captains on their return from successful slave trips in Africa. We are told that Malbone had the dinner removed to the lawn where it was eaten while the mansion burned. The terrace and fish pond still remain where a magnificent garden once smiled.

Mr. Hall restored it to much of its pristine glory and it is still a lovely spot.

The house cost \$100,000, a large sum in those days, and so prodigal was Godfrey Malbone with his wealth that at the close of each of the dinners given to his captains and



crews, the hilarious guests were given free license to smash every dish and plate on the table. Needless to say that Mrs. Malbone saw to it that none of her precious china was in evidence at that dinner.

This house was the country estate of Malbone and is located on Malbone Road.

The Malbone town house was used as a depot of treasure held by the British during their occupation. Situated on lower Thames Street, it is opposite a wharf called Hinds Wharf. At its foot in the early part of the last century lay the remains of Captain Cook's famous ship "Endeavor", in which he circumnavigated the globe in 1768-69.

Opposite the Malbone House was once the home of Captain Taylor who was with Perry at the Battle of Lake Erie.

Farther north on Thames Street on Cotton's Court is the home of Dr. Cotton, who was surgeon with Perry at Lake Erie.

ROBINSON HOUSE

This house is still owned and in the summer is occupied by members of the family descended from Quaker Tom Robinson. Located on Washington Street at the corner of Poplar Street, on the waterfront, during the Revolution first British and then French officers were quartered in it, all of whom were said to have been greatly



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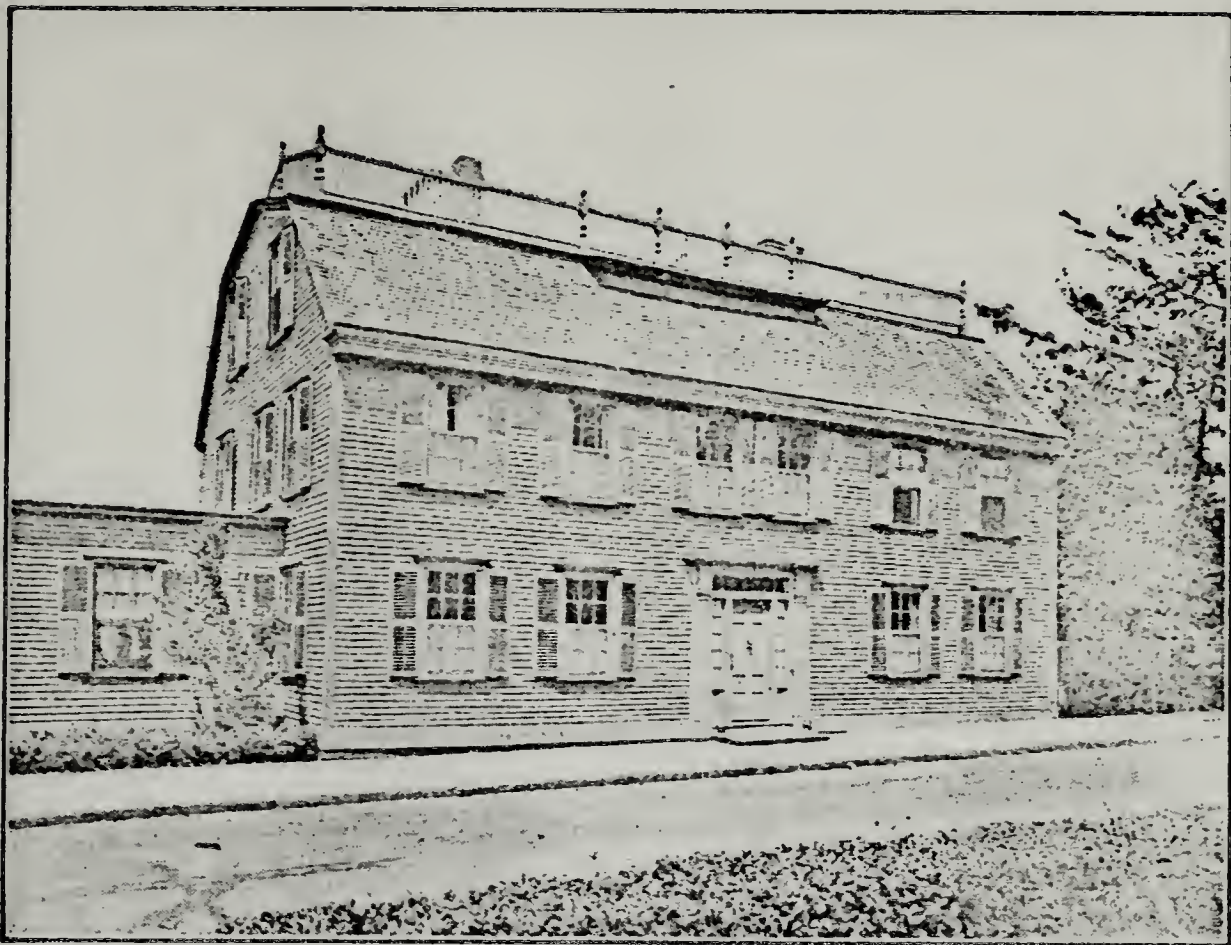
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HUNTER HOUSE CHINA CLOSET.
An exceptionally fine example of the
craftmanship of middle - eighteenth
century. Typical of hand - carved
woodwork to be found in Newport
homes of well-to-do merchants of
the period.

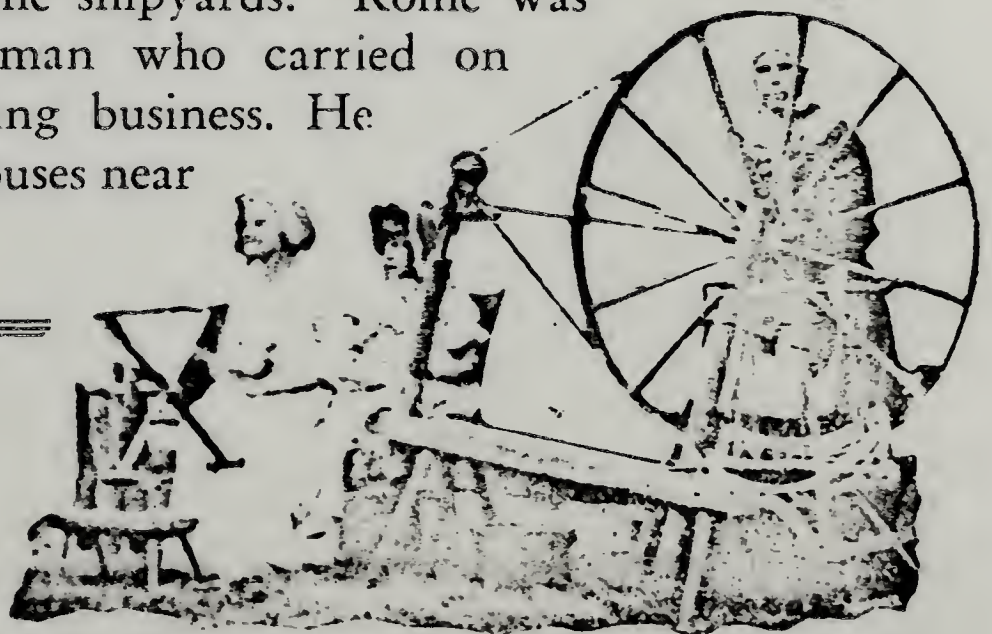


Robinson House—Rich with Revolutionary History

captivated by the beauty of the Robinson girls, much to the discomfort of their prudent mother.

ROME PROPERTY

At the present time owned by Miss Storer, this house is modern when compared with the other houses of the Revolutionary Era, and stands on the site of the old Rome shipyards. Rome was a wealthy Englishman who carried on an extensive shipping business. He owned large warehouses near





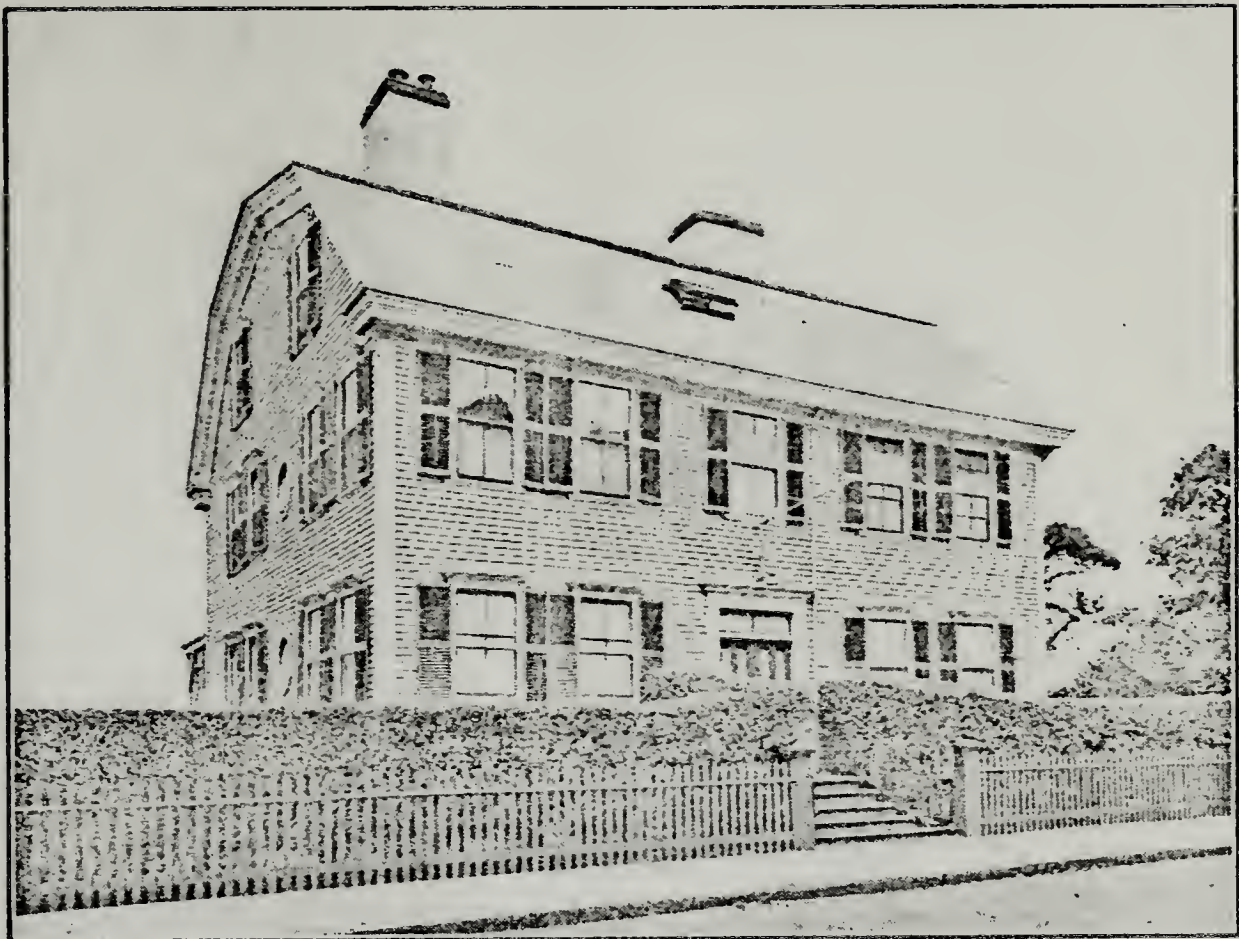
THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA is a series of walls and fortifications built by the Chinese to protect their empire from invasions.

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA

At the present time, the wall is in a state of ruin, and only a few sections remain. The wall was built by the Chinese to protect their empire from invasions. It is a series of walls and fortifications built by the Chinese to protect their empire from invasions. The wall was built by the Chinese to protect their empire from invasions.





Hunter House—Washington Street—Erected about 1746

the shipyard, but all ended with the Revolution. Being an avowed Tory, in the battles of 1773, his warehouses were demolished and his stores destroyed. He was obliged to take refuge on the British frigate "Rose" and that was the last heard of him.

The house in which Rome lived was built about 1752 and stands on the opposite corner to the Robinson house on Washington Street. It is generally known as the Henry Collins Town House; Rome having taken the house in settlement of debts owed by Collins who, as a man of wealth and culture, gave the land where Redwood Library stands, but whose fortune was depleted by the British Admiralty

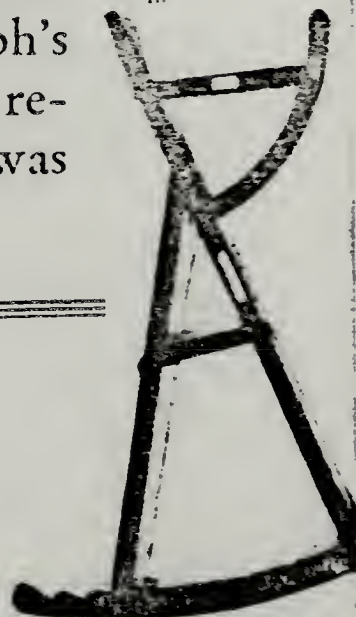




Johnstone House—Lord Percy's Revolutionary Quarters

Laws of 1756. This house was later occupied by Jane, daughter of Gilbert Stuart, who lived here with her mother.

There are many more old houses on Water or Washington Street as it is now called. The Shipley House, once the home of Captain Brownell who was with Perry at Lake Erie, is on the water side. Opposite is the Southwick House, built about 1760 and occupied by the British during the Revolution. Farther south is the Hunter House, now St. Joseph's Convent. Its well known pineapple doorway, reputed to have been designed by Peter Harrison, was



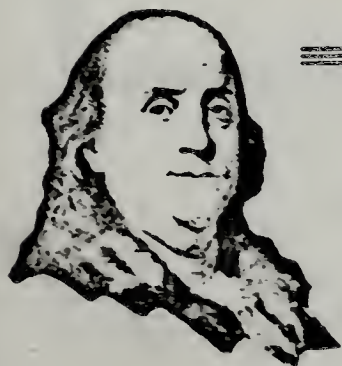
removed a few years ago and now forms the doorway of the parsonage of St. John's Church, at the corner of Poplar Street.

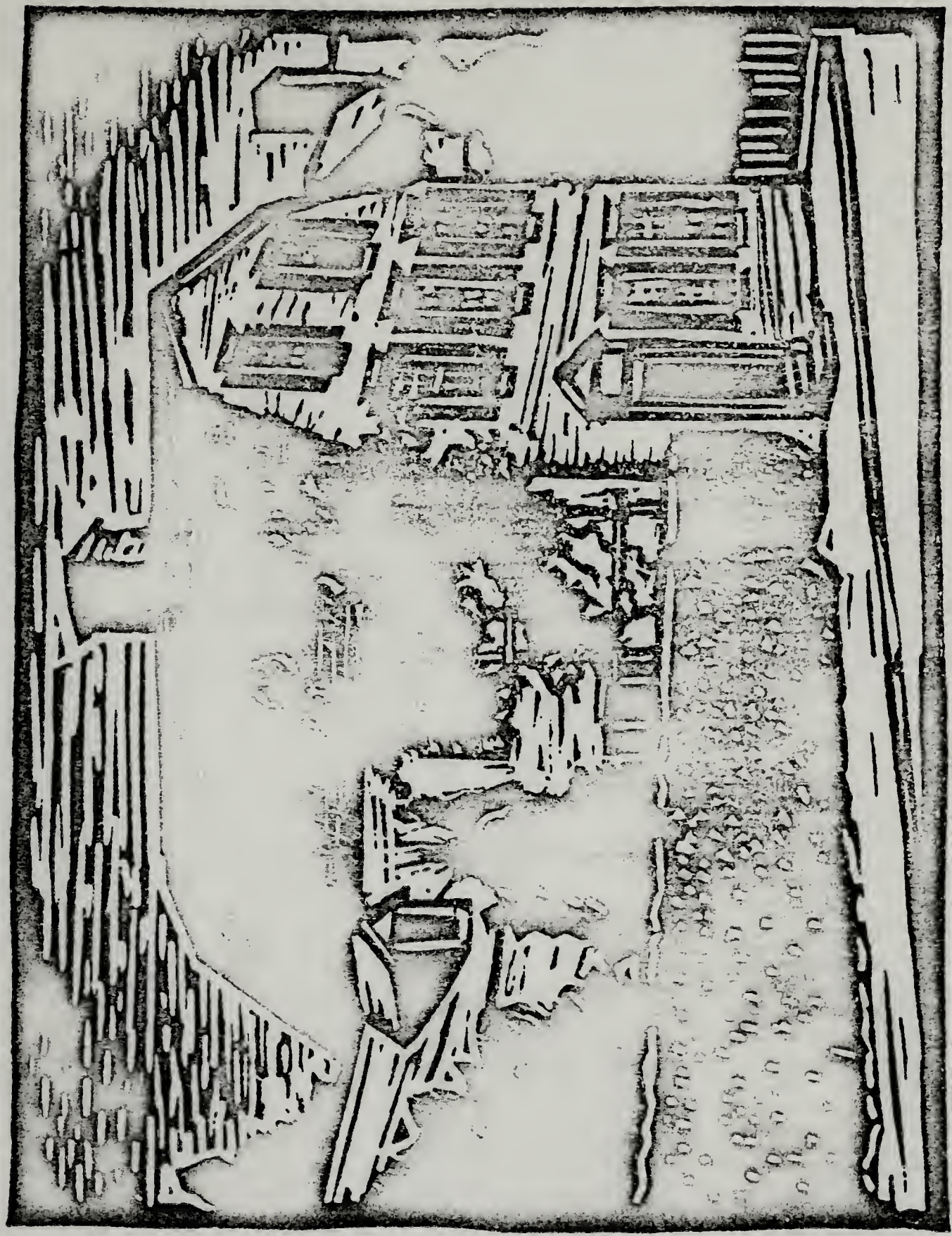
One house of historic interest away from the centre of the town is the Johnstone House on Cliff Avenue near Newport Beach. This was the headquarters of Lord Percy (British) who tried to prevent wanton destruction, notably among the books of the Redwood Library, during the years when the British held Newport.

THE RHODE ISLAND GAZETTE OF 1732

On Wednesday, Sept. 27, 1732, the "Rhode Island Gazette", the colony's first newspaper, appeared on the streets of Newport. It was a modest four page sheet which was "Printed and Sold by James Franklin, at his Printing House under the Town-School-House where advertisements and letters to the Author are taken in".

James Franklin, (1696-1735) was the first man to bring a printing press to Rhode Island. The Gazette was not his first journalistic venture, for he had had a brief, but acrimonious experience as a printer and editor in Massachusetts. Returning in 1717 from his apprenticeship in London, James Franklin had been commissioned by the postmaster, William Brooker, to print the Boston Gazette. After forty numbers had been printed, Philip Musgrave was made postmaster, and to Franklin's dismay he





BROWNELL HOUSE—House of Captain Brownell, a companion of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry at the Battle of Lake Erie.

THEY WERE IN THE POWER OF THE LORD
AND HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE HAD
BEEN WITH THEM AT THE TIME OF THE
CONQUEST OF THE LAND OF CANAAN.



awarded the printing contract to Samuel Kneeland. Taking advantage of the excited condition of Massachusetts over the "innoculation war" Franklin then started the New England Courant, August 6, 1721, and under his editorship, the Courant became the chief "liberal" organ, and devoted much of its space to attacking those who preached on the virtues of inoculation.

The Courant continued its pugnacious course, ever critical of those in authority until June 1722, when Franklin was jailed for charging the colonial officials with negligence in suppressing piracy. During his imprisonment, the paper was carried on by his brother Benjamin. The Courant did not flourish, and in fear of further arrest, he was induced by his other brother, John, who was living in Newport to move here and establish a newspaper. To these circumstances Rhode Island owes her first newspaper. In 1727, he began publishing such pamphlets and sermons as offered themselves, and in 1731, as the official printer, put forth part of an edition of the laws of the colony.

When the Rhode Island Gazette made its appearance, the readers were warned not to complain if: "the Paper is not always full of important events, which Times of Peace and Tranquility do not afford". Lack of seasonable news appeared to be one of the editor's difficulties. Foreign news at times occupied more than half the paper; at other times none at all was included. Of

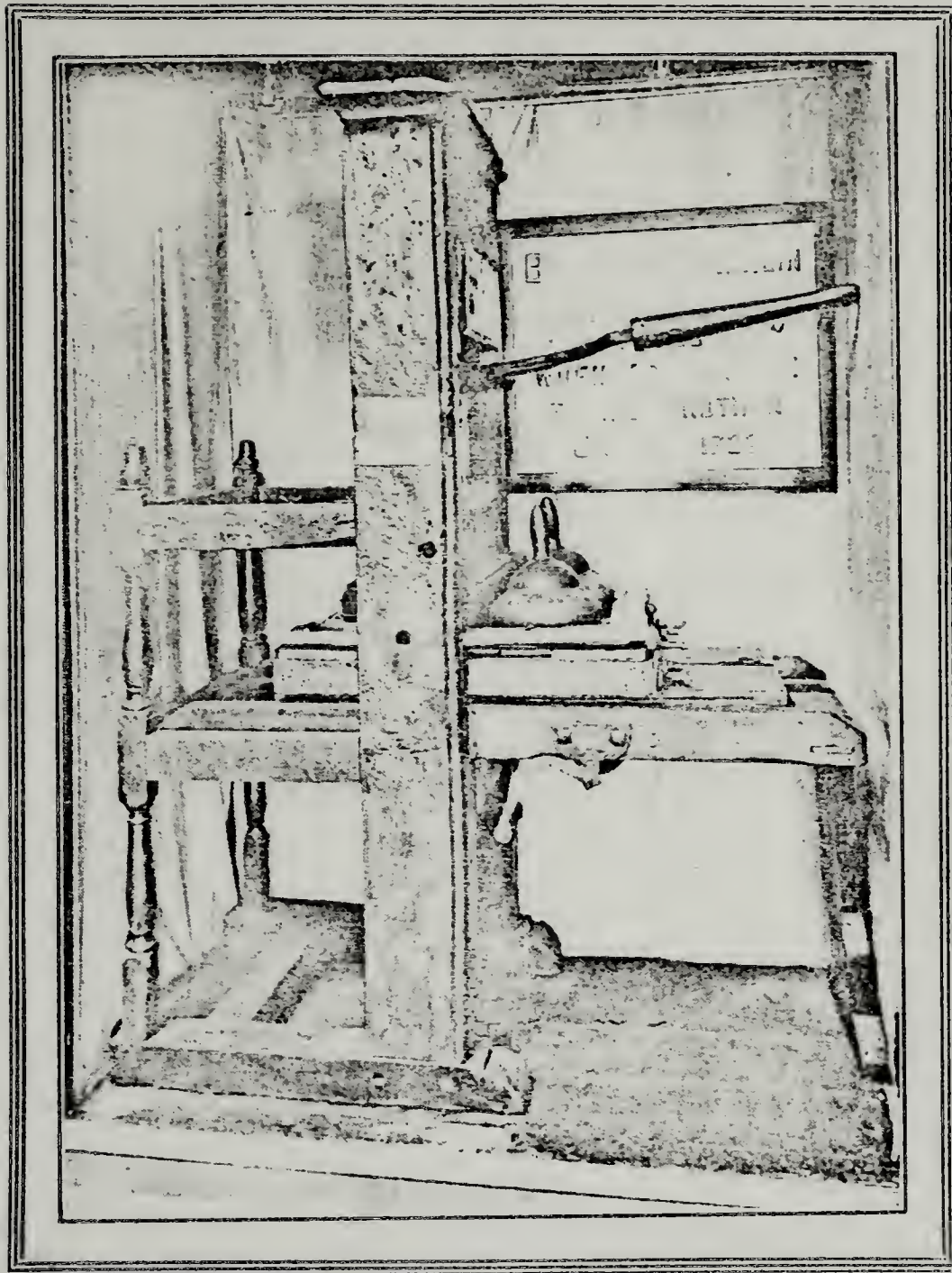


strictly local news the Gazette printed all it could, but there never were more than a half dozen items per issue, and often none at all. The most spectacular event in Newport during the short life of the Gazette was the escape, in his wife's clothing, of a convicted murderer:

"Yesterday Night, (October 10, 1732) his wife and child going to visit him, after staying about half an Hour, she came to the outward Door of the Prison, and desir'd the Prison-Keeper to lend her a Mugg to fetch some Milk for her Husband; adding, "'Tis no Matter, now I think on't, there's one in the Room with him". Presently after (the Prisoner) having put on his Wife's Cloak and Bonnet, knock'd at the Door; and the Prison-Keeper letting him into the Priviledg'd Room, he walk'd through it in the View of him and several others, who mistook him for his Wife. The Prison-Keeper going immediately to lock the Inner Doors, found his Prisoner was gone, and his Wife and Child left in the Room where he was confin'd."

Although the militia was called out and all citizens were ordered by Governor William Wanton to "make Hue and Cry" the condemned man was not recaptured, at least in so far as the Gazette took notice of the affair.

It was on December 14, 1732 that James Franklin published the Rhode Island Almanack for the year 1733, fitted to the meridian of Newport. As his more illustrious brother Benjamin published Poor Richard's Almanac, so authorship of the Rhode Island one was ascribed to Poor Robin. Custom house notices of the arrival and departure of ships



FRANKLIN'S PRESS. The press on which printer James Franklin and his illustrious brother Benjamin, printed the "Courant" and later the "Rhode Island Gazette". Now on exhibition in Mechanics Building, Boston, Mass.

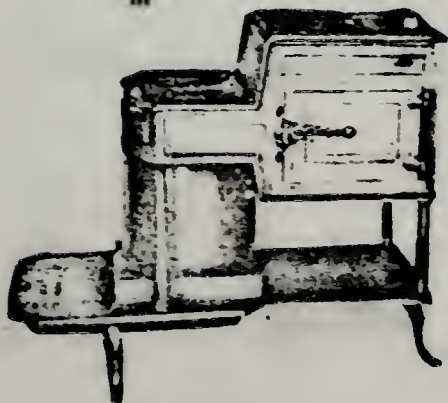
give evidence of Newport's thriving maritime trade.

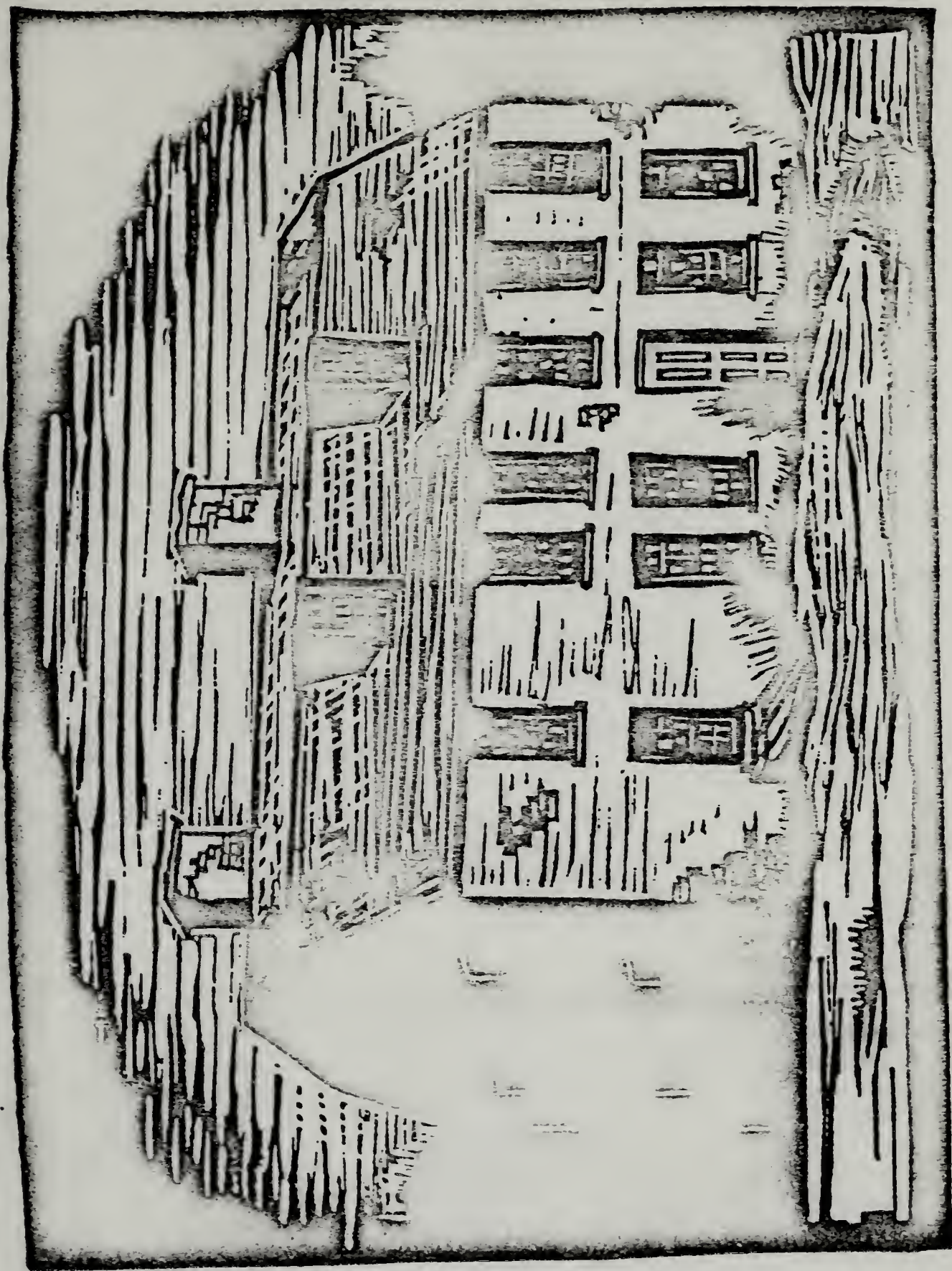
An advertisement which was indicative of the editor's difficulties appeared on January 11, 1733:

"No. 13 of this Paper concludes a quarter. Those who have taken it from the Beginning are desir'd to pay their Money to John Franklin of Boston, or James Franklin of Newport; the Continuance of it depending on punctual Quarterly Payments, or a great Number of Subscribers."

The paper was probably well read, but Yankee thrift operated to circulate one copy through many hands; this does not make for prosperous editors. The last number preserved today, Number 20, is dated March 1, 1733, but we know that the Gazette's final issue was on May 24th of the same year.

James Franklin died in 1735, and his widow carried on the business with the help of her son, James Franklin, Jr. In 1758 the first copy of the Mercury appeared, and its publication continued until the death of James, Jr., in 1762. The Widow Franklin then took into partnership her son-in-law Sam Hall, and when she died the following year, he continued its publication. Hall sold out to Solomon Southwick, who continued until 1779 when the British entered Newport. Southwick buried his press and fled for his life. After the British left, he returned and resumed his business until financial embarrassment and ill health forced him to retire in 1795. The Mercury lived under several different proprietors until November 1872, at which time it appeared under the ownership of John P. Sanborn.





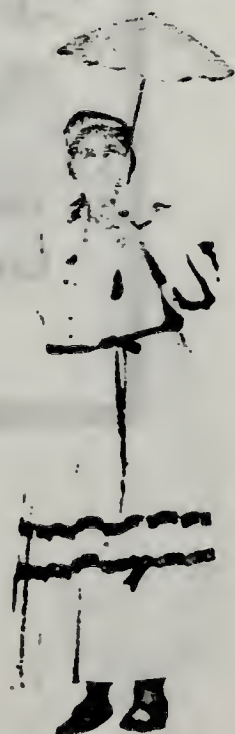
BULL HOUSE—(1639) House of Henry Bull, early settler and Governor 1685-86, 1690.
Destroyed by fire Dec. 29, 1912.

It remained in his family until April 28th, 1928, when the last issue appeared under the editorship of Alvah H. Sanborn, the next issue, May 4th, 1928 appearing under the editorship of Edward A. Sherman who continues its publication as a weekly periodical. The Mercury is the oldest newspaper with one exception, printed in America, having been published continuously since 1758, with the exception of the short period of time when the British were entrenched here.

IDA LEWIS LIGHTHOUSE

As Newport has led in many ways among men, claiming as one native son, John Clarke, the world's first apostle of true liberty, so too, she has had one of the world's greatest heroines—Ida Lewis—who lived in the little Lime Rock Lighthouse, at the southern end of the inner harbor, then commonly and now officially called by her name.

In the beginning there was only a beacon which was cared for by her father. Later in 1857 when Ida was 15 years old, the lighthouse was built and the family moved there to live. Daily she rowed her brothers and sisters to school bringing back supplies for the family. In this way she became a real master of winds and waves and her muscles developed like steel. After the death of her father, her mother was appointed keeper and Ida assistant keeper, and on her mother's death, Ida was appointed keeper.



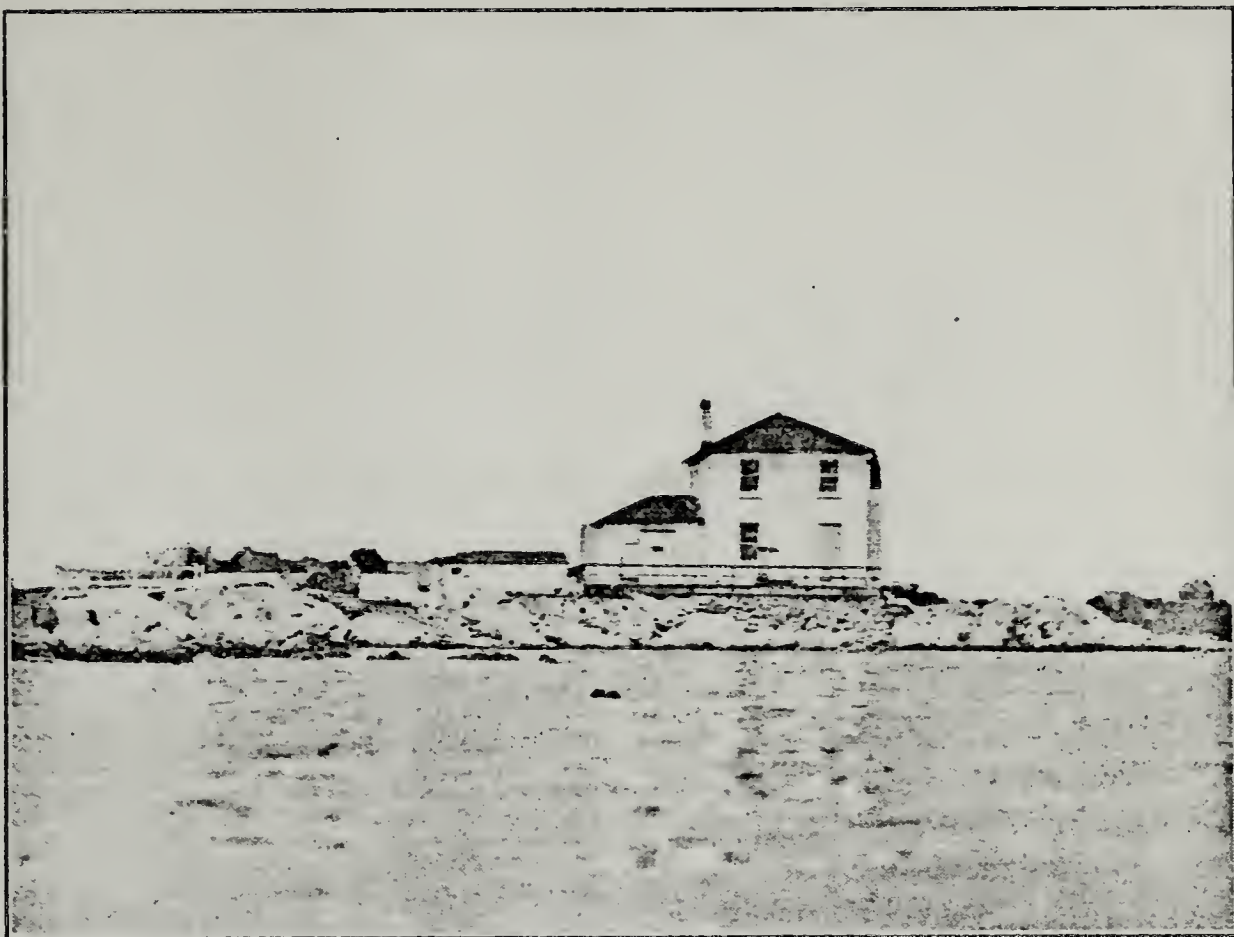
It occurred in the month of April 1911, when the two men appeared under the following circumstances. The man was 45 years of age, of medium build, and was dressed in a suit of dark clothing. He was accompanied by a woman who appeared to be his wife. They were both dressed in the style of the early 20th century. The man was of a fair complexion and had dark hair. The woman was of a fair complexion and had dark hair. They were both dressed in the style of the early 20th century. The man was of a fair complexion and had dark hair. The woman was of a fair complexion and had dark hair.

THE MAN AND THE WOMAN

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211-1800



Ida Lewis Light—Home of an Outstanding American

Her spic and span little home was often swept by sudden, high winds, which raised "nasty seas". Men of Fort Adams, many times, would have been drowned in plain sight of her windows had it not been for her matchless daring and skill. Night and day Ida launched her boat and rowed into the seething waves; and often when it was very hazardous she went single-handed, no man daring to go with her.

Many visitors from everywhere flocked to her humble island home, showering her with honors and



gifts. Some of these can be seen at the Historical Society's rooms which are open to visitors and the collection is one of the most attractive and instructive in New England.

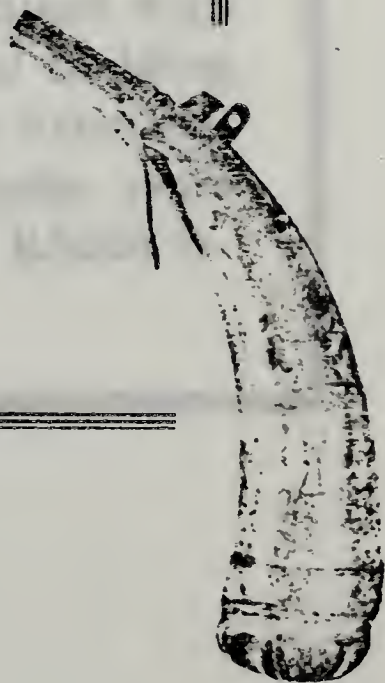
Her record was splendid and in recognition of this Carnegie awarded her a pension. Among her other awards were a gold medal from Congress and the first gold cross of the American Legion of Honor. The townsfolk presented her with a rowboat, built on Long Wharf, this type of boat being famed all along the coast.

She died in the lighthouse, as she had hoped to do, and at her funeral she was accorded high honors, a military band and eight sturdy sergeants from Fort Adams as her bearers. Stores were closed and men stood outside saluting as the cortege passed slowly the length of the main street.

During her life she was liked by all, especially the children who paddled over to see her and were welcomed with doughnuts. After her death, it remained for a grammar-school girl to provide a granite monument for her grave.

NEWPORT ARTILLERY ARMORY

One of the most interesting buildings in Newport is that of the Artillery Armory located on Clarke Street, the home of the ancient Newport Artillery Company which is reputed to be the oldest active military

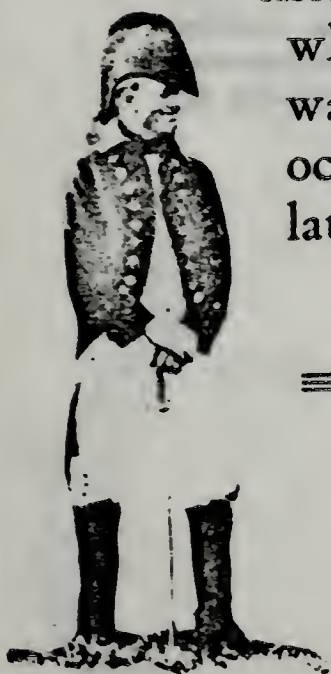


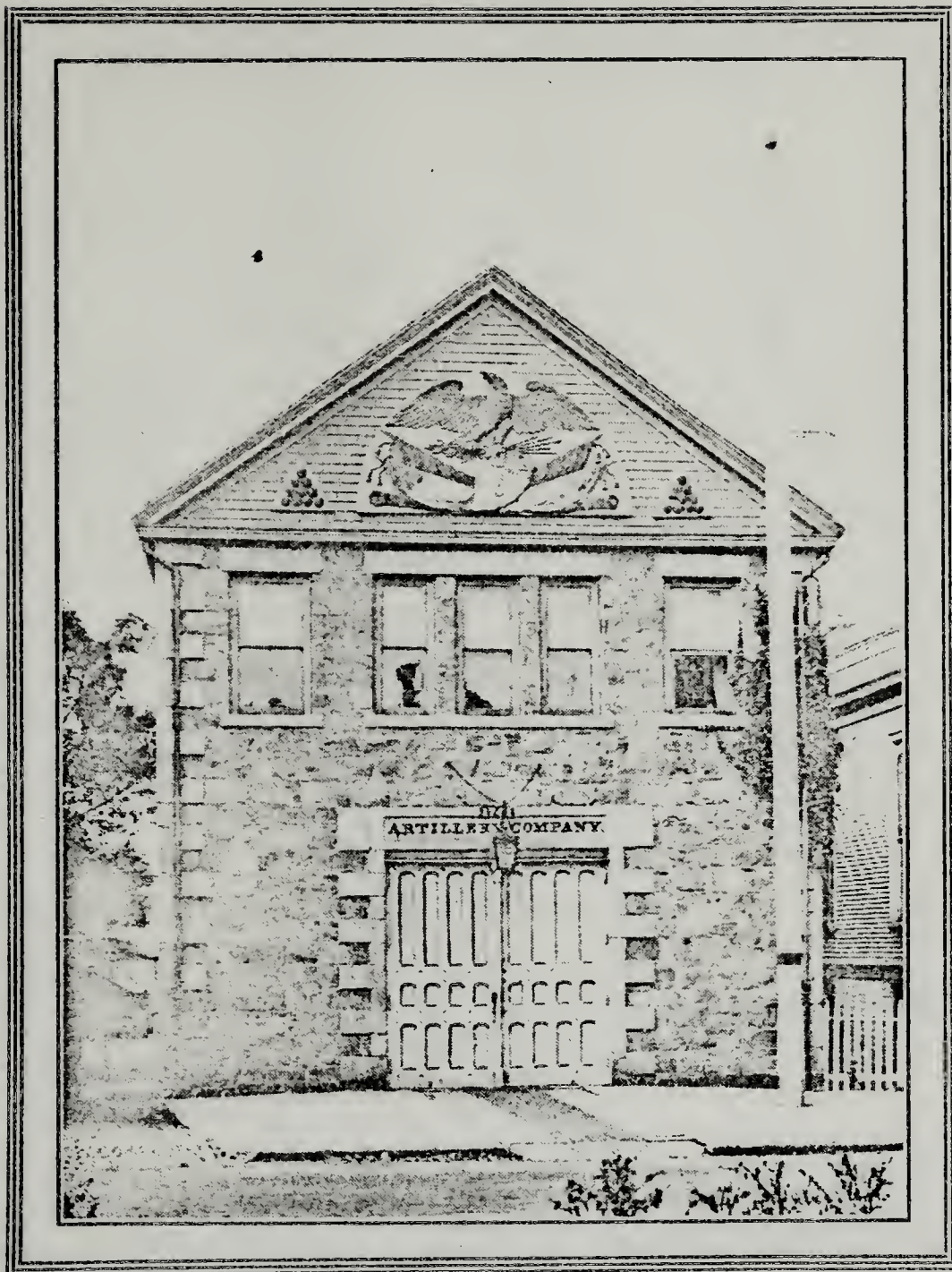
organization in America. Many stirring incidents have taken place within the walls of this historic old building. Men have marched out of its doors to take part in the Dorr Rebellion, the Civil, Spanish-American and World Wars.

On September 10, 1834, Audley Clarke, in consideration of his feelings of attachment and good will toward the Artillery Company, deeded to Stephen Ayrault Robinson, the commanding officer of the company, the land upon which the Armory now stands. The purchase price was one dollar. The purpose of this initial step taken to provide a suitable drill hall was according to the old records, "to acquaint and accustom the members to the military exercises by more frequent training so that the company may carry out its original object: 'A school for officers'".

A peculiar clause in the deed reads as follows: "If the Artillery Company of the town of Newport disbands and stays disbanded for twenty years and no company is formed under the same rules, regulations and charter that are now in force, the Armory and the land upon which it stands passes to the proprietors of the Children's Home".

With this generous gift of land, it was but a short time before sufficient funds were obtained with which to erect the Armory. The original building was considerably smaller than the present structure, occupying but one-half of the land. Some years later, permission was obtained from the Rhode Is-





THE ARMORY. Headquarters of the oldest, active military organization in America. Troups of this command engaged in the Dorr Rebellion, Civil, Spanish American and World Wars.

land legislature to hold a lottery for the purpose of securing the necessary funds with which to double the size of the building. Late in the century, the members of the company excavated a cellar running the entire length of the Armory, in which they installed a rifle range and bowling alleys.

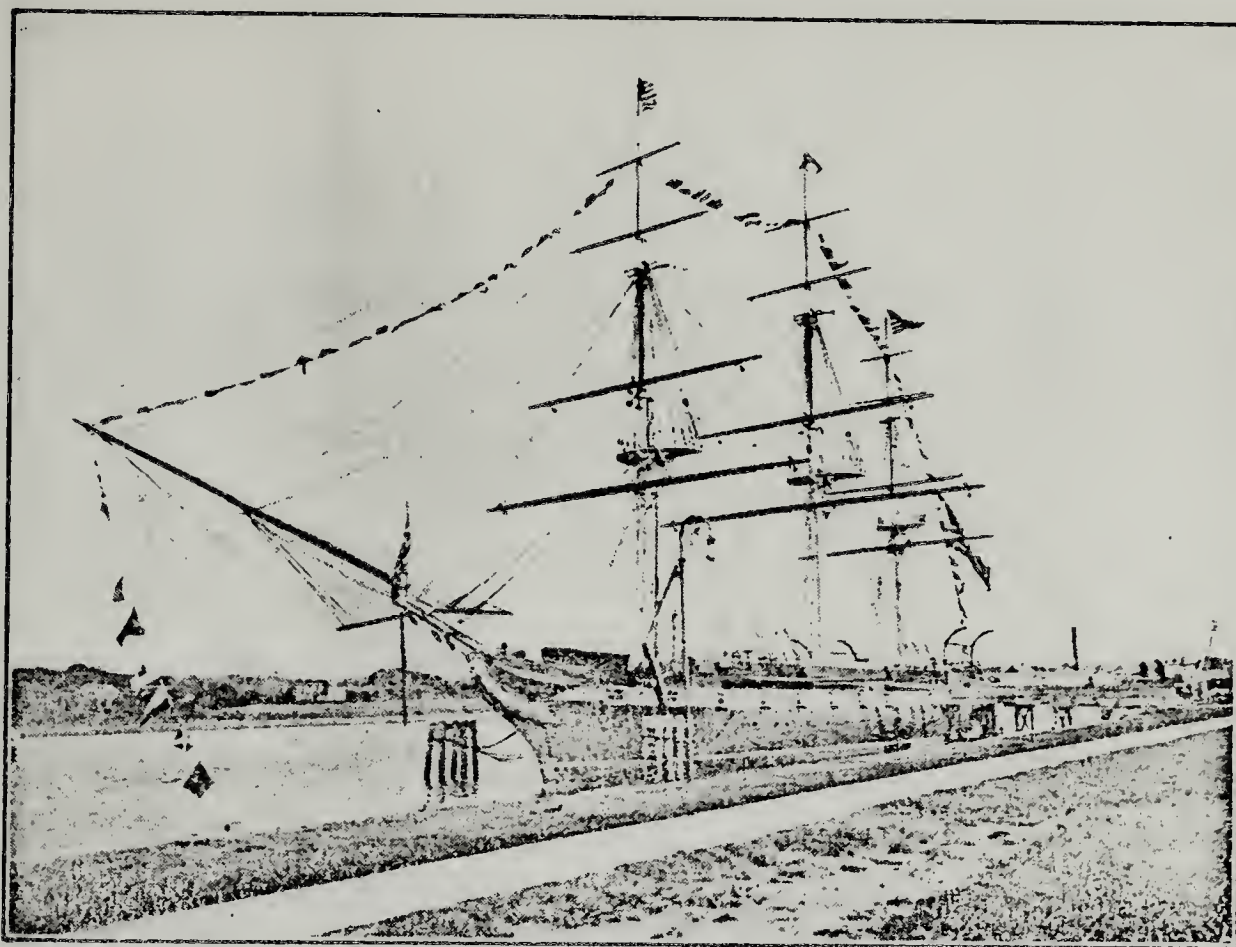
Despite the fact that in 1906 the Armory was considerably destroyed by fire necessitating its rebuilding the following year with a second story in which are located modern quarters for officers and men, many of its historic treasures have been preserved. Included in this unusual collection is an original letter sent to the company by General George Washington and also a small locket which contains a lock of Washington's hair.

U. S. S. CONSTELLATION

Although space does not permit the narrating of the important part Newport's military and naval institutions played in early American history, brief mention must be made here of the old frigate "Constellation". A more complete history of this vessel and other government establishments may be found in a special pamphlet published by the Newport Chamber of Commerce.

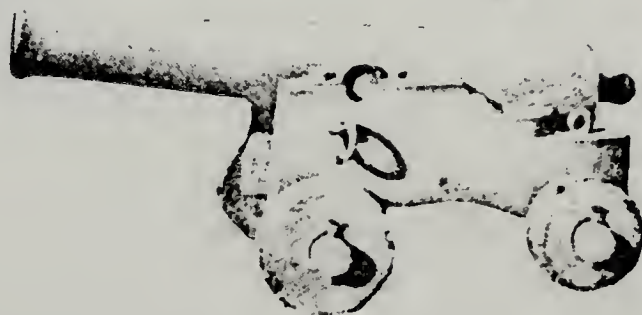
The "U. S. S. Constellation", oldest war vessel afloat, anchored at the Naval Training Station, has a record of service quite as exciting and colorful as the famous "U. S. S. Constitution", ("Old Ironsides"). In battle after battle on the high seas during wars





U. S. S. Constellation—Oldest War Vessel in the World

with France, Tripoli and England, she was victorious, gaining for her the nickname "Lucky Ship". She was last in service as a fighting ship during the Civil War, but has since sailed on many diplomatic missions. Used now as a training ship for young seamen, she is still the same staunch and seaworthy frigate that was launched in 1794. This historic vessel is open to view and inspection every day, at the Naval Training Station.



IN CONCLUSION



N conclusion, it must be stated that in a community which was sold by the Indians to the white settlers nearly three hundred years ago, there are numerous buildings, many of them especially fine examples of the architecture of the seventeenth century and still a much larger group of finely preserved architectural examples of the pre-Revolutionary period.

Space does not permit the describing of all these magnificent edifices, interesting, not alone for their historical associations but also because of their architectural beauty, which remain to connect us with the past. No historical review, however brief, would be complete without at least a mention of such buildings as the Dr. Hopkins Meeting House (1729) on Mill Street, now transformed into the home of the Knights of Columbus; the curiously quaint and old-fashioned cottage, the home of the wife and the scene of the marriage of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, located on lower Thames Street; the Perry homestead on the south side of Washington Square, now occupied by the Salvation Army as its local headquarters; and the Shipley and Cope houses on Washington Street.

No attempt has been made in this booklet to describe the many equally ancient and interesting old buildings located in Newport County outside of the city proper. Those persons interested in any specific





COPE AND ROBINSON HOUSES—Two of the many interesting Colonial Mansions of old Water Street —
The Cope house erected 1751 by Henry Collins and the Robinson House
still owned and occupied by descendants of "Quaker Tom".

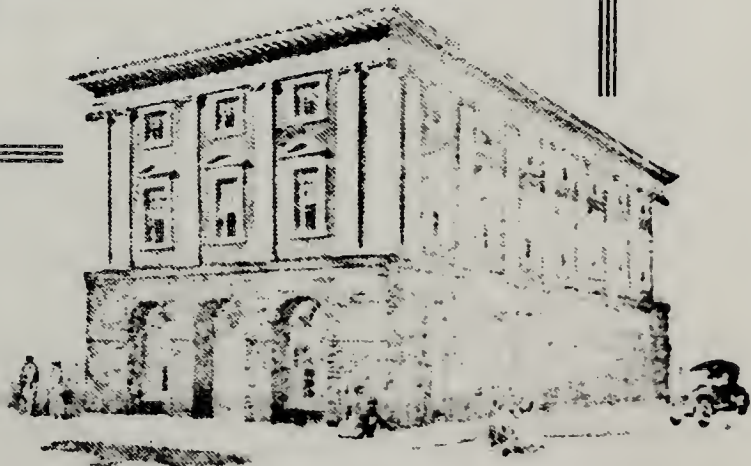
one of these, however, may obtain information regarding by communicating with the Chamber of Commerce or Newport Historical Society.

AN APPRECIATION

The Newport Chamber of Commerce wishes to take this opportunity to express its appreciation to Mr. Lloyd A. Robson for his generous contribution of the block prints which add so much to the value and attractiveness of this book. All are originals of Mr. Robson with the exception of the Coddington House copied from an illustration appearing in Mason's "Recollection of Newport" and the Bull House, copied from Field's "State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations".

The Chamber of Commerce is indebted to the generous financial support received from the municipal government which has aided materially in the publication of this book.

Acknowledgment is also made by the "Newport Historian" of the cooperation received in the compilation and preparation of material and photographs for this book. Special credit is due Mr. Lloyd M. Mayer, secretary of the Newport Historical Society and the members of his efficient staff, Mr. Howard M. Chapin, librarian of the Rhode Island Historical Society and Mr. John F. Shaw, chairman and the members of the Chamber's publicity committee with whose valued assistance a difficult task was made easy and enjoyable.



one of these points, but when attention is
given to the circumstances and the character of
the case, it is clear that the

THE CASE

The following summary of the case is
based on the report of the committee on
the subject of the case, and is intended
to show the facts of the case, and the
reasons for the decision. The committee
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